

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Special Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Thursday, November 28, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. via Teams.

Commissioners Present

Mr. Joe Ortona, Chair  
Mr. James Kromida, Vice-Chair  
Ms. Maria Corsi, Commissioner  
Ms. Chelsea Craig, Commissioner  
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner  
Ms. Paula Kilian, Commissioner  
Ms. Julie Kristoff, Parent Commissioner  
Mr. Pietro Mercuri, Commissioner  
Ms. Sharon Nelson, Commissioner  
Ms. Susan Perera, Commissioner  
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, Commissioner  
Ms. Merika Ramundo, Parent Commissioner  
Ms. Paola Samuel, Commissioner

Commissioners Not Present

Ms. Jessica Houde-Woytiuk, Parent Commissioner  
Ms. Jennifer Rutt, Parent Commissioner

Administrators Present:

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

Mr. Mario Argiropoulos, Assistant Director, Adult Education & Vocational Services  
Mr. Mike Cohen, Manager, Marketing & Communications  
Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretariat General

1.	<p><u>Land Acknowledgement</u></p> <p>We/I would like to acknowledge that the English Montreal School Board is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka*. We are grateful to live, learn, and work in Tiohtiá:ke*, which has long been a site of meeting and exchange for many First Nations, and is currently home to diverse groups of Indigenous and other peoples.</p> <p>As a School Board, it is important that we acknowledge the historic and ongoing role of educational institutions in perpetuating injustices against Indigenous communities. We are committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educating staff and students about the true history and current realities of the Indigenous Peoples of what we now call Canada.</li> <li>• Celebrating the cultures, contributions, and knowledge of the many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities.</li> <li>• Listening to and amplifying Indigenous voices.</li> <li>• And partnering with local Indigenous community members.</li> </ul> <p>We offer this acknowledgement as a first step and public commitment to our ongoing process towards reconciliation and justice for Indigenous peoples and communities.</p>
2.	<p><u>Confirmation of Notice of the Meeting</u></p> <p>The Secretary General, Me Nathalie Lauzière, confirmed that proper notice of this meeting was given.</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 # 24-11-28-3</u></p>
4.	<p><u>Question Period</u></p> <p>Questions from Mr. Chris Eustace were read and addressed by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona, regarding the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Follow-up Questions</li> <li>➤ Remuneration of the Council of Commissioners</li> </ul>
5.	<p><u>AEVS Request for Permanent Vocational Training Program Authorization for 5819 - Carpentry</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the English Montreal School Board (EMSB), through its Adult Education and Vocational Services (AEVS) Department, is seeking to augment its permanent program authorizations in Vocational Training;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ), as part of their Offensive de formation en construction initiative, launched in October 2023, short-term training courses (STC-Skill Training Certificates), lasting from four to six months to help fill labour shortages in high-demand trades in the construction sector;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the MEQ authorized the EMSB to offer the STC program of 4766-Carpentry (705 hours) for two (2) cohorts (22 students per cohort) for the school years of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, for a total of eighty-eight (88) students, and that the EMSB received 249 applicants for the available 88 spots;</p>

	<p><b>WHEREAS</b> the MEQ Offensive de formation en construction officially ends as of June 30, 2025, and the EMSB will apply for a permanent vocational training program authorization of the DVS-Diploma of Vocational Studies of 5819-Carpentry (1350 hours);</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the sums invested in the launch of the Offensive de formation en construction have enabled the EMSB to set up the space with all the infrastructure and equipment needed to offer the STC and therefore, no additional funding will be required for the implementation of the DVS program;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the English Language Vocational Education Council (ELVEC) Table, on November 22, 2024, supported the EMSB’s request for the permanent program authorization of 5819-Carpentry;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Table des responsables de l’éducation des adultes de la formation professionnelle de l’île de Montréal (TRÉAFP), on November 25, 2024, supported the EMSB’s request for the permanent program authorization of 5819-Carpentry;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MS. MARIA CORSI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board requests a permanent program authorization for the DVS-Diploma of Vocational Studies of 5819-Carpentry;</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Regional Director of AEVS and Director General or the Deputy Directors General be authorized to sign the Ministère de l’Éducation du Québec (MEQ) - Application Form for Provisional or Permanent Vocational Training Program Authorization on behalf of the English Montreal School Board.</p> <p>Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 24-11-28-5</u></p>
6.	<p><u>Adjournment</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:20 p.m.</p> <p>Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 24-11-28-6</u></p>
	<p>Signed in Montreal, _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Mr. Joe Ortona, Chair</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General</p>