

COVID-19

PostPandemic: How COVID-19 is reshaping Canada PostPandemic: How COVID-19 is reshaping Canada [Read More>](#)

Manage Print Subscription

Sections  Search

MONTREAL GAZETTE

Subscribe

Sign In

News Opinion Sports Business Arts Life Driving Healthing The GrowthOp ePaper



Quebec / Local News

Marlene Jennings apologizes for backing premier in school spat

"Boy was I wrong," she tells the English Montreal School Board.

Philip Authier • Montreal Gazette

Apr 08, 2021 • 16 hours ago • 1 minute read • [Join the conversation](#)

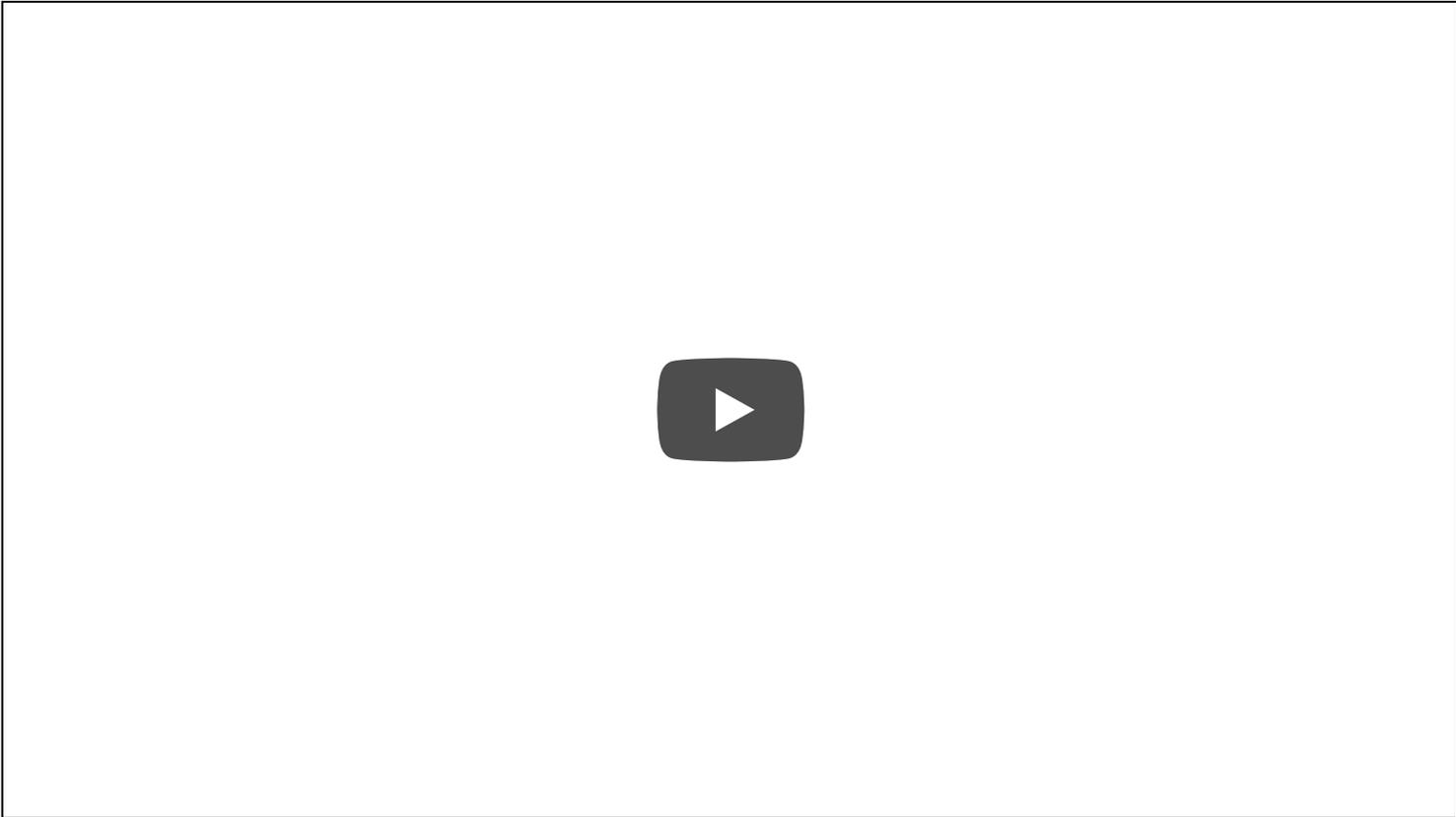




Marlene Jennings: "I apologize unreservedly to EMSB. Full stop." PHOTO BY JOHN MAHONEY /Montreal Gazette

QUEBEC — Marlene Jennings says she was wrong to back Premier François Legault when he suggested the English Montreal School Board was not qualified to decide about school openings and closings.

And she has apologized to the board.



“When you are wrong, you are wrong!,” Jennings, head of the Quebec Community Groups Network, said in a tweet Thursday.

“And boy was I wrong to support Legault on school closures (or not).

“EMSB was right and I was wrong. I apologize unreservedly to EMSB. Full stop.”

 **MarleneJennings2.0**
@marleneqcg 

When you are wrong, you are wrong! And boy was I wrong to support Legault on school closures (or not)! EMSB WAS RIGHT AND I WAS WRONG. I apologize unreservedly to

EMSB, full stop!

3:16 PM · Apr 8, 2021



29
 2
 Copy link to Tweet

Jennings touched off a controversy Tuesday when, in a tweet, she expressed support for Legault after he took a swipe at the EMSB for its refusal to comply with his government's initial order to send all high school students back to class full time.

Though the government decided to rescind the order, Legault sounded irritated during his news conference and questioned whether the EMSB was qualified to make decisions about the matter.

"We have to rely on science; we have to rely on the real experts," Legault said. "I have not seen the EMSB experts."

In her tweet, Jennings sided with the premier: "I love it!!! I am with Premier Legault. I too would like to know who those EMSB 'experts,' are and their credentials."

The tweet irritated the EMSB and the Quebec English Boards Association. QESBA executive director Russell Copeman said he found Jennings's stance "odd."



Russell Copeman
@racopeman



I find it odd that the only dissonant voice in our community about the EMSB's legitimate and correct response to the yo-yo decisions of the Govt of Québec on the successful hybrid model in high school is the President of @QCGN #polqc #COVID19 #ÉducationQc



MarleneJennings2.0 @marleneqcgcn

Replying to @eliasmakos and @toinz

I love it!!! I am with Premier Legault; I too would like to know who those EMSB 'experts' are & their credentials.



pauthier@postmedia.com

twitter.com/philipauthier

MORE ON THIS TOPIC

Opinion: Premier Legault, teachers are 'real experts,' too

All our coronavirus-related news can be found at montrealgazette.com/tag/coronavirus.

Sign up for our email newsletter dedicated to local COVID-19 coverage at montrealgazette.com/coronavirusnews.

Help support our local journalism by [subscribing to the Montreal Gazette here](#).



LATEST NATIONAL STORIES

Montreal Gazette Headline News

Sign up to receive daily headline news from the Montreal Gazette, a division of Postmedia Network Inc.

Email Address

Sign Up

By clicking on the sign up button you consent to receive the above newsletter from Postmedia Network Inc. You may unsubscribe any time by clicking on the unsubscribe link at the bottom of our emails. Postmedia Network Inc. | 365 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3L4 | 416-383-2300

TRENDING

- 1 'We've had no choice but to lock down, reopen, lock down, reopen,' Legault says**
 with Video
- 2 Analysis: Overcrowded Montreal hospital offloading COVID patients**
 with Video
- 3 About Last Night: Habs' bad habits on display for second straight night**
 with Video
- 4 COVID-19 updates, April 8: Starting Sunday, curfew moves back to 8 p.m. in Montreal and Laval**
 with Video
- 5 Sociologist Bouchard says pandemic revealed hidden nature of people**

THIS WEEK IN FLYERS

COMMENTS

Postmedia is committed to maintaining a lively but civil forum for discussion and encourage all readers to share their views on our articles. Comments may take up to an hour for moderation before appearing on the site. We ask you to keep your comments relevant and respectful. We have enabled email notifications—you will now receive an email if you receive a reply to your comment, there is an update to a comment thread you follow or if a user you follow comments. Visit our [Community Guidelines](#) for more information and details on how to adjust your [email](#) settings.

NewsOpinionSports
BusinessArtsLifeDriving
E-Paper

Follow the
Montreal
Gazette



[Advertise With Us](#)[Digital Ad Registry](#)[Site Map](#)[Contact](#)[Privacy - Updated](#)[Terms of Use](#)[Copyright](#)

365 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3L4

© 2021 Montreal Gazette, a division of Postmedia Network Inc. All rights reserved. Unauthorized distribution, transmission or republication strictly prohibited.