

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. virtually, on Teams in Montréal.

Commissioners Present:

Me Joe Ortona, Chair
Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Vice-Chair
Mr. Mario Bentrovato, Commissioner
Ms. Maria Corsi, Parent Commissioner
Ms. Sophie De Vito, Commissioner
Mr. Jamie Fabian, Commissioner
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner
Ms. Ellie Israel, Commissioner
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

Administrators Present:

Mr. Russell Copeman, Interim Director General
Ms. Evelyne Alfonsi, Assistant Director General, Education Division
Me Benoît Duhême, Assistant Director General, Administration Division
Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General

Mr. Mario Cardin, Director Material Resources
Ms. Sandra Léveillé, Director School Organization
Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director Financial Services
Ms. Pela Nickoletopoulos, Sector Director Elementary School
Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director Student Services
Ms. Anna Sanalidro, Director Educational Services
Ms. Angela Spagnolo, Sector Director AEVS
Ms. Ann Watson, Director Human Resources
Mr. Mike Cohen, Communications & Marketing Specialist
Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretarial General and Communications

1. Approval of the Agenda

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved, with the following modifications:

Addition of items:

8.1 Commissioners' Reports

	<p>20.1 Motion for anti-bullying day</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #21-02-24-1</u></p>
2.	<p><u>Question Period</u></p> <p>There were no questions from the public.</p>
3.	<p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>The Chair reported that the selection process for the appointment of the Director General has begun and interviews will begin shortly.</p> <p>There was a Town Hall held virtually on February 10th to present to the public the EMSB transformational plan.</p>
4.	<p><u>Director General's Report</u></p> <p>Presented by Interim Director General, Mr. Russell Copeman:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Covid-19 pandemic. • Confirmation of appointments of the Administrative Staff: Angela Spagnolo, Adult Education and Vocals Services Julie René De Cotret, Student Services Anna Sanalidro, Educational Services • In February, there is a week of hooked on school days with the theme motivation and school engagement of young people during the pandemic. • February 1st to the 7th this year was teacher appreciation week and it gave us at the EMSB and school service centres throughout Québec the opportunity to express our thanks to our devoted teachers who have faced exceptional challenges this year. • Mr. Fabian mentioned today is anti-bullying day in Québec sometimes known as pink shirt day and students and staff again through our network many participated by wearing some form of pink. • Next week is March break, all our schools are closed for a well-deserved break and that provides the opportunity for our school administrators, our teachers our support staff or caretakers or professionals and our students to get a bit of a reset at this time of year, and so I would encourage of course our students and their families and our staff and their respective families to follow the Covid 19 sanitary measures to adhere to them as strictly as possible, so that we can return healthy an reenergized during the week of March 8.
5.	<p><u>Adoption of the Minutes</u></p> <p>5.1 <u>Adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held on December 16, 2020</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on December 16, 2020, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #21-02-24-5.1</u></p>

	<p>5.2 <u>Adoption of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting Held on February 1, 2021</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on February 1, 2021, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #21-02-24-5.2</u></p>
6.	<p><u>Business Arising Out of Minutes</u></p> <p>6.1 <u>Q2 Review and 2020-2021 Forecast</u></p> <p>Presented by Interim Director General, Mr. Russell Copeman – for information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Budget • Q2 Reviews • Major elements • Direct Covid-19 costs • Conclusion
	<p>At 6:40 p.m., on a motion by Mr. J. Ortona, Chairman, the meeting recessed to fix the sound on the live stream.</p> <p>The meeting resumed at 6:55 p.m.</p>
7.	<p><u>In Memoriam</u></p> <p>7.1 <u>Tribute to the Late Susan Clarke, Former Commissioner</u></p> <p>WHEREAS the Board values the contribution made by its employees and commissioners;</p> <p>WHEREAS the Board wishes to take official cognizance of the passing of any member of its large family of employees;</p> <p>WHEREAS the late Susan Clarke served as a commissioner for the former Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal (PSBGM) and the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) from 1994 to 2013;</p> <p>WHEREAS the late Susan Clarke was a loyal and dedicated member of the Council of Commissioners, she participated in the work of the Board’s operations including its standing committees and had served as Chairman of the Finance and Legislation Committee;</p> <p>WHEREAS the late Susan Clarke was involved in many community organizations: <i>Centraide</i>, the <i>Canadian National Institute for the Blind</i>, the <i>Montreal Oral School for the Deaf</i>, the <i>NDG Food Depot</i> and the <i>NDG Community Council</i>;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Board note with regret the passing of the late Susan Clarke, Commissioner of the former Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal and the English Montreal School Board, whose contributions helped develop the PSBGM and the EMSB and the communities in which she served.</p>

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-7.1

7.2 Tribute to the late Joan Dougherty, Former Chairman of the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal

WHEREAS the Board values the contribution made by its employees and commissioners;

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

WHEREAS the late Joan Dougherty spent eight years on the board as Vice-Chair and Chairman of the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal (PSBGM), which later became the English Montreal School Board (EMSB);

WHEREAS the late Joan Dougherty served as a member of the National Assembly for the riding of Jacques-Cartier from 1981 to 1987 and in 1985 served as parliamentary secretary to education;

WHEREAS the late Joan Dougherty was especially committed to an excellent public education for every child and services for those with special needs;

WHEREAS the late Joan Dougherty was involved in many community organizations: the *Junior League of Montreal*, the *YMCA* and *Red Feather*, a longtime charity in Montréal;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Board note with regret the passing of the late Joan Dougherty, the former Chairman of the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, whose contributions helped develop the PSBGM and the communities in which she served.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-7.2

7.3 Tribute for February 2021

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. J. ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board note with regret the passing of:

Sandra Topping, Adult Education Teacher, St. Laurent Adult Center
Norma Hogan, Retired Administrative Technician, Deputy Director's Office, EMSB
Wilbur Leslie, former Principal, PSBGM
Wayne Faulconbridge, former Human Resources Coordinator, PSBGM
Leif-Bernhardt Torjusen, former administrator, PSBGM

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

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-7.3

8. 8.1 Commissioners' Report

Miracle Food Drive

- Information Item presented by Ms. E. Israel.

Westmount Park School

- Renovation progress to a 100-year-old building presented by Mr. J. Feldman.

Ad Hoc Committee Protocol

- The creation of an Ad Hoc Marketing Subcommittee presented by Ms. M. Corsi.

8.2 Committee Reports

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

- The Committee met on February 17, 2021 and recommended the adoption of three Ad Hoc Committees to be formed:
 1. Ad Hoc Committee on Post Pandemic Task Force on Educational Challenges
 2. Ad Hoc Committee on Budget Building Process for 2021-2022
 3. Ad Hoc Committee on Equity

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

1. The Committee met on February 17, 2021 and decided that it would work with the mandate contained in the Education Act and By-Law No. 11.

2. The Committee reviewed and was satisfied with the job description of a Principal and Centre Director. It was noted that the Job description of the Director General was not submitted to the committee, due to lack of time.

3. The Human Resources Department Procedure regarding “The selection and promotion process to the position of principal or centre director” will be discussed further.

4. The ratios for the allocation of administrators and other staff to schools and centres were reviewed and will also be discussed further. Lowering the ratio for the allocation of vice principals to elementary schools was raised as a possibility.

5. It was agreed that Policy HR-6, Abolishing, maintaining, creating and hiring non-instructional positions be recommended to the Council for abolishment.

6. The draft school calendars 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 were presented for information and will be forwarded to the Council.

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

Mr. Kromida mentioned the following points:

- Committee met remotely once on February 10, 2021.
- The meeting included the members of the Committee, Director General, Director of Financial Services and the Internal Auditor.
- The mandate of the Committee is, as per the EMSB Website, the following:

The Audit Committee serves as a working and consultative committee whose purpose is to assist the commissioners in seeing to the establishment of internal control mechanisms, the optimal use of the School Board's resources and to act on behalf of Council in overseeing all material aspects of financial reporting, internal controls, the Internal Audit function and the audit of the annual financial statements.

The date of the next meeting shall be determined and the Committee shall look further into the above.

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

- Meeting on January 20th, 2021 on the election of a Chair (Mr. P. Mercuri) and Vice-Chair (Mr. T. Speranza)
- Discussion on the mTransport system:

The mTransport system makes life easier for everyone – administrators, parents, children and bus drivers – for standard or adapted school transportation.

8.2.5 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Educational Services), presented by Ms. M. Mughal

- Discussion of the team meeting on January 19, 2021 presenting the budget and budget building process.

8.2.6 CGTSIM (Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de L'Ile de Montréal), presented by Mr. A. Cannavino

- Discussion of meeting on February 11, 2021 reviewing the budget and tax projections.
- The nomination of an external auditor for the school year ending June 30th, 2021, *Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton*.
- Discussion on the poverty map and the funding of the schools as they are coded to be re-evaluated.

8.2.7 EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee) presented by Mr. J. Lalla, Chair of the Committee

January 12, 2021 Meeting - EMSB Budget Building Process:

The moderator, Mr. Paul Karpontinis explained of how schools are funded and reviewed the EMSB's budget building process documentation.

Budget Priorities for 2021-2022:

1. To maintain or improve the ratio of resources in schools to support students with greater mental health

needs such as a better ratio of guidance counselors and student services.

2. Improve training for all levels of staff in our schools and offer initiatives like having comfort animals to better support students with mental health issues, such as anxiety.
3. Increase the allocation in the wellness budget, to expand on workshops such as sexuality education, mental health, leadership, enhancing learning opportunities through elective courses.
4. Do more in our schools to mediate stressful situations amongst students, for example better schedule optimization, more time for staff to communicate and plan to stagger student evaluations so that they minimize overlap.
5. Resources for individual needs (human resources/people, integration of international students availability of gender-neutral washrooms in every school where there is demand, etc.). Greater effort to promote inclusiveness of the LGBTQ+ community.
6. Interior and Exterior improvements to our schools (Lockers, ceiling tiles, updated washrooms, improvements to lighting and cafeteria tables.).
7. Replace old and worn-out reading materials, lab instruments and other equipment used for in-person and online learning, with newer and up-to-date equipment.

Guiding Principles:

1. In addition to projects that reduce future capital expenditures, the EMSB should also favour practices that promote environmental sustainability, even when it entails an additional cost.
2. It is important to improve staffing ratios, employ “21st century” teachers and increase training offered to teachers in order to assure the quality of education.
3. EMSAC agrees that representation should be made to improve the per capita allocation and enrollment multipliers.
4. EMSAC hopes to see the increases in efficiencies result in additional funding to schools.

February 19, 2021 Meeting:

The items which were addressed at this meeting are as follows:

- Final Exams for the 2020-21 School Year
- New Guidelines for Schools under COVID-19 & Vaccination Priorities
- Surgical Mask Recycling
- EMSB Affirmation of February 2021 as Black History Month (Information)
- Meal Assistance Program (Information)
- Mental Health Services at the EMSB (Information)

8.2.8 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parent Committee), presented by Mr. T. Speranza, Parent Commissioner for High Schools

- Discussion on the meeting of January 14, 2021 on the presentation of the EMSBPC annual report for 2019-2020 and a success plan.
- The unanimous vote on the PC scholarship and literacy awards.
- Meeting of February 4th to finalize the budget priorities and one being to significantly increase the current staffing ratios for the professionals such as psychologists, speech and language pathologists and guidance counselors, resource teachers and behavior technicians.
- Establishing of a Rule Low Enrollment subcommittee consisting of delegates from the East and West, the purpose of the subcommittee is to identify long-term solutions to retain students graduating from elementary schools within our network and to attract new students.
- Discussion on the February 11th, 2021 meeting
 1. Implementing an intense survey that tracks where children intend to go to high school.
 2. If they would consider a scholarship fund to help reduce the costs of a sport program or other specialized program.

3. Strengthen the quality of French instruction across the Board.
4. Holding High School fairs at the elementary schools and inviting high school student councilor members to visit them.
5. Hosting student exchanges between East and West to build a coherent network.
6. West parents identified a need for bilingual high school and highlighted the limited options available.

- Discussion on the meeting held on February 15, 2021 presented by Ms. M. Corsi.
 1. The mental health and wellbeing of the children during these pandemic times.
 2. Lowered academic performance and learning gaps created by the shutdown last March as well as due to the pandemic realities.

3. Online learning, parents have noted an increase in aggression and bullying partially born from frustration due to restricted class bubbles and lack of extracurricular programs.

- Reporting on the marketing and virtual parent conference organized by the EMSBPC on April 18th, 2021.

It will be online on virtual platform, thanks to the EMSB departments as well as some external consultants who are volunteering their time for some fun and interesting workshops that you can follow, progress and registration will be open in the next coming weeks, [youcanfollowus@facebook.com/EMSB](https://www.facebook.com/EMSB).

- The reading of the Resolution on the E-Vote from the EMSMPC held from February 16, 2020 to February 18, 2021, parents committee response to the EMSB transformation plan.

8.2.9 QESBA (Quebec English School Board Association), presented by Mr. J. Ortona

There were updates to Bill 40 challenge. The hearings should be taking place in the month of April. An update was also given on the election status.

9. School and Central Rollovers from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021

WHEREAS as per Section 96.24 of the Education Act, the School Board may credit all or part of the schools' and centres' surpluses to the school or centre or another educational institution if the Resource Allocation Committee recommends it and the Council of Commissioners implements the recommendation;

WHEREAS as per Section 193.4 of the Education Act, the Resource Allocation Committee must annually make a recommendation to the Council of Commissioners regarding the allocation of the surpluses of the School Board's educational institutions;

WHEREAS as per Section 193.5 of the Education Act, the School Board may entrust the functions assigned to the Resource Allocation Committee under this Act to the advisory committee on management, herein after referred to as the Central Management Advisory Committee/Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC/RAC);

WHEREAS the CMAC/RAC has reviewed and endorsed the proposed distribution of school and centre surpluses and the school and centre deficits to be covered for the school year 2019-2020;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE/RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE, THAT the school and centre surpluses and deficits at June 30, 2020 be allocated to the 2020-2021 fiscal year, as outlined in the documentation submitted at this meeting.

Vote: 10-4-0, Adopted

In Favor	Mr. J. Ortona, Mr. A. Cannavino, Ms. M. Corsi, Ms. S. De Vito, Mr. J. Fabian, Ms. E. Israel, Mr. P. Mercuri, Ms. M. Mughal, Mr. M. Pietrangelo, Mr. T. Speranza
Against	Mr. J. Feldman, Mr. J. Kromida, Mr. J. Lalla, Mr. D. Tatone
Not Present for the vote	Mr. M. Bentrovato

Resolution #21-02-24-9

10. 10.1 Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Budget Building Process for 2021-2022

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee met on February 17, 2021 and recommended that an Ad Hoc committee be created to study the Budget Building Process for 2021-2022;

WHEREAS several members of the Council of Commissioners have agreed to sit on the aforementioned committee;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE, THAT there be created an Ad Hoc committee whose mandate will be to study the Budget Building Process for 2021-2022.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ad Hoc committee be composed of the following members of the Council of Commissioners:

- Mr. James Kromida (Chair)
- Mr. Julien Feldman
- Mr. Joe Ortona

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-10.1

10.2 Ad Hoc Committee on Equity

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee met on February 17, 2021 and recommended that an Ad Hoc committee be created to establish a Committee on Equity;

WHEREAS several members of the Council of Commissioners have agreed to sit on the aforementioned committee;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. T. SPERANZA AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE, THAT there be created an Ad Hoc committee on Equity.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ad Hoc committee be composed of the following members of the Council of Commissioners:

- Mr. Daniel Tatone (Chair)
- Mr. Julien Feldman (Vice-Chair)
- Mr. Joe Ortona
- Ms. Mubeenah Mughal
- Mr. Jamie Fabian
- Mr. Tony Speranza

Vote: 14-1-0, (Mr. Joseph Lalla voted against), Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-10.2

10.3 Ad Hoc Committee on Post Pandemic Educational Challenges

WHEREAS the Governance and Ethics Committee met on February 17, 2021 and recommended that an Ad Hoc committee be created to establish a Post Pandemic Task Force on Educational Challenges;

WHEREAS several members of the Council of Commissioners have agreed to sit on the aforementioned committee;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. M. PIETRANGELO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE, THAT there be created an Ad Hoc committee whose mandate will be to prepare the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) for the Educational Challenges Post Pandemic.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ad Hoc committee be composed of the following members of the Council of Commissioners and the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Administrators:

Mr. Mario Bentrovato (Chair)

Ms. Maria Corsi

Mr. Jamie Fabian

Mr. Joseph Lalla

Mr. Pietro Mercuri

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-10.3

11. Proposal to Rescind Policy HR-6 Abolishing, Maintaining, Creating and Hiring Re Non-Instructional Positions — For Consultation

WHEREAS Policy HR-06 Abolishing, Maintaining, Creating and Hiring Re Non- Instructional positions was adopted by the English Montreal School Board on April 26, 1987, as per Resolution #87-08-26-4-C4;

WHEREAS the Human Resources Committee met on February 17, 2021 and recommended that the Policy be rescinded;

WHEREAS the proposal to rescind Policy HR- Abolishing, maintaining, creating and hiring Re Non-Instructional positions has to be sent out for the purpose of official consultation to the following groups:

- *Central Management Advisory Committee - Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC);*
- *Association Professionnelle du Personnel Administratif (APPA);*
- *English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC);*
- *Montreal Teachers Association (MTA);*
- *Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels du milieu de L'éducation de Montréal (SPPMEM);*
- *Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA);*
- *Association Québécoise des Cadres Scolaire (AQCS);*
- *Quebec Federation of Labor (QFL);*
- *Association of Education Montreal Board Administrators (AEMBA);*

WHEREAS the end date for consultation purposes with the aforementioned committee unions/associations will be THIRTY (30) days following the date of this Board meeting;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE, THAT the proposed rescindment of Policy HR-6 - Abolishing, Maintaining, Creating and Hiring Re Non-Instructional positions be approved and sent out, for purposes of consultation, to the *Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC), Association Professionnelle du Personnel Administratif (APPA), English*

	<p><i>Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC), Montreal Teachers Association (MTA), Syndicat des professionnelles et professionnels du milieu de L'éducation de Montréal (SPPMEM), Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA), Association Quebecoise des Cadres Scolaire (AQCS), Quebec Federation of Labor (QFL) and Association of Education Montreal Board Administrators (AEMBA) and the results of the consultation be returned to Ann Watson, Director of Human Resources no later than March 25, 2021, in accordance with the documentation submitted at the meeting.</i></p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #21-02-24-11</u></p>
12.	<p><u>Mandate to the EMSB Long Range Planning Committee to Study School Boundaries</u></p> <p>WHEREAS the last consultation on school boundaries was in 2010;</p> <p>WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) network of schools has changed in the last eleven years with various school closures and merges;</p> <p>WHEREAS the Transportation and Safety Advisory Committee Members met on January 20, 2021 and recommended that the current transportation boundaries must be studied in order to ensure efficiency;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Council of Commissioners mandate the Long Range Planning Committee to begin working with necessary EMSB departments and committees on scenarios with the intention to launch a board wide consultation on school boundaries.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #21-02-24-12</u></p>
13.	<p><u>Draft Calendars (Teachers) for the Youth, Adult and Vocational Sectors for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 - For Consultation</u></p> <p>WHEREAS the Human Resources Department has drafted the calendars (teachers) for the youth, adult and vocational sectors for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023;</p> <p>WHEREAS the calendars (teachers) for the youth, adult and vocational sectors for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 must be sent out for the purposes of official consultation to the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC);</i> - <i>Central Management Advisory Committee - Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC);</i> - <i>Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA);</i> - <i>Montreal Teachers Association (MTA);</i> <p>WHEREAS the end date for consultation purposes with the aforementioned committees, unions/associations will be THIRTY (30) days following the date of this Board meeting;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the proposed calendars (teachers) for the youth, adult and vocational sectors for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 be approved and sent out, for purposes of consultation, to <i>English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC), Central Management Advisory Committee - Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC), Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA) and Montreal Teachers Association (MTA)</i> and the results of the consultation be returned to Ann Watson, Director of Human Resources no later than March 25, 2021, in accordance with the documentation submitted at the meeting.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p>

14. Real Estate Rental Rates for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

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 the rates remain the same as in 2020-2021;

WHEREAS additional fees may be applied for sanitary reasons under special circumstances;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the rental rates for the use of Board facilities by outside organizations for the 2021-2022 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 (EMSB).

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-14

15. 15.1 Inoculation of Staff Against Covid-19

WHEREAS the Government of Québec has established priority groups for vaccination against Covid-19;

WHEREAS in most cases, teachers and school staff currently find themselves at the second to last step of the priority list unless there is an underlying health condition;

WHEREAS given that schools are to remain open, the staff of schools and centres in direct contact with students should be designated essential service employees and should be considered a higher priority under this vaccination list;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the request be made to the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ), to advocate with the health authorities for the designation of the staff of schools and centres in direct contact with students as essential service employees in order for these staff members to be considered a higher priority under the vaccination list established by the Government of Québec.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- M. Jean-François Roberge, Ministère de l'Éducation
- M. Christian Dubé, Minister of Health and Social Services
- All Members of the National Assembly
- Dr. Horacio Arruda, Assistant Deputy Minister, Direction générale de la santé publique
- Dre. Mylène Drouin, Regional Director of Public Health, Direction régionale de santé publique, CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal
- Dre. Julie Loslier, Regional Director of Public Health, Direction de santé publique de la

Montréal

- All Unions and Associations of the English Montreal School Board
- The Quebec English School Board Association
- All other English School Boards

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-15.1

15.2 Covid -19 Rapid Testing Program at EMSB Schools

WHEREAS the number of COVID cases arising from the youth sector educational environments has been increasing since schools reopened in January 2021, while overall cases in Québec have been declining;

WHEREAS active outbreaks arising from the youth sector educational environments represent approximately 27% of the total outbreaks in Montréal;

WHEREAS Montréal remains the epicenter of the pandemic in Québec in terms of the highest number of COVID infections;

WHEREAS several mutations of the coronavirus have been detected in Montréal and are recognized by the scientific community to be highly contagious, and potentially more deadly;

WHEREAS several Montréal neighborhoods across the EMSB territory have persistent disproportionately high numbers of COVID cases;

WHEREAS in recent weeks local health authorities launched a testing blitz in five French schools on the territory of the CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal;

WHEREAS the EMSB has not been invited to participate in COVID testing programs in schools despite having schools in recognized "hot zones";

WHEREAS the health and safety of students, staff and their families are of the utmost priority for the EMSB;

IT WAS MOVED BY MRS. M. CORSI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) request that the Government of Québec and local health authorities implement a voluntary rapid testing program using saliva-based test kits at EMSB schools.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-15.2

16.

Revised Policy SS-7 - Policy Governing the Organization of Educational Services for Students with Handicaps, Social Maladjustments, or Learning Disabilities - For Consultation

WHEREAS Policy SS-7 - Policy Governing the Organization of Educational Services for Students with Handicaps, Social Maladjustments, or Learning Disabilities was first adopted by the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) on March 30, 2005 as per Resolution # 05-03-30-7.1 and revised in 2016 by Resolution # 16-06-15-10;

WHEREAS point 6.2 of Section V of Policy SS-7 indicates there is monthly contact between the school principal and parents related to the discussion of a student's IEP;

WHEREAS the EMSB Council of Commissioners wants to review Policy SS-7 in order to revise said

Policy to include that parents are entitled to separate IEP meetings if necessary and for the good of their child;

WHEREAS the Advisory Committee on Special Education Services (ACSES) must be consulted on said revised Policy in conformity with section 187 of the Education Act;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. P. MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Advisory Committee on Special Education Services (ACSES) be mandated to review Draft Revised Policy SS-7 – Policy Governing the Organization of Educational Services for Students with Handicaps, Social Maladjustments, or Learning Disabilities to examine the issue of parents being entitled to separate IEP meetings if necessary and for the good of their child;

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT ACSES report back to the Council of Commissioners on this issue at the Council’s next regular meeting.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #21-02-24-16

Adoption of the Français Plus Program- Mandate to the EMSB Administration

17.

WHEREAS in October 2018 the English Montreal School Board announced that a new elementary school would be opened at 4850 Coronation with a Français Plus Program;

WHEREAS the facility at 4850 Coronation is now used as the senior campus for Willingdon School;

WHEREAS the Français Plus Program is not currently available at the English Montreal School Board among the French programs offered at schools;

WHEREAS the Français Plus Program extends French immersion instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 4 (instead of from Kindergarten to Grade 2) and 50 percent for English and French in Grades 5 and 6. Approximately 85% of the instructional time in the Français Plus Program is in French;

WHEREAS parents in the EMSB have expressed the need for more French instruction in our schools;

WHEREAS the reality is that some parents of children who have eligibility for English instruction have chosen French schools. A new Français Plus School program may be attractive to those families and satisfy the need for more French instruction;

IT IS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Administration be mandated to examine the possibility of offering a Français Plus Program as an additional choice of programs for schools to adopt and implement for their students.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Administration report back to the Council of Commissioners during the fall of 2021.

An amendment was proposed by Mr. J. Lalla that the Administration report back to the Council of Commissioners no later than at the October 2021 Council Meeting.

Vote on Amendment: 15-0-0, Adopted unanimously.

Vote on main motion including the amendment: 15-0-0, Adopted unanimously.

Resolution #21-02-24-17

Mr. Kromida left the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

18.

Reaffirmation by the Council of Commissioners of Resolution #18-05-23-9.2, Titled Coming Into Force of Section 59 of the Constitution Act, 1982

WHEREAS on May 23, 2018 the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board unanimously adopted Resolution #18-05-23-9.2, titled Coming into Force of Section 59 of the *Constitution Act*;

WHEREAS Resolution #18-05-23-9.2 was forwarded to the Government of Québec, which at the time had a *Quebec Liberal Party* majority;

WHEREAS the Government of Québec currently has a *Coalition Avenir Québec* majority;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board reaffirms its support of Resolution #18-05-23-9.2.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board recommends to the National Assembly to give its consent to the Government of Québec to authorize a proclamation to repeal subsection 1 of section 59 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982, in order to recognize the right of parents whose first language learned and still understood is English, in order to have their children receive primary and secondary school instruction in English in Québec.

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board forward this resolution to the Premier of Québec, to the Minister of Education, and to the Minister Responsible for the French Language.

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board forward this resolution to *Quebec English School Boards Association* (QESBA) and our sister English school boards, as well to the *English Parents' Committee Association* (EPCA) and the *Quebec Community Groups Network* (QCGN), to encourage them to adopt similar motions.

An amendment was proposed by Ms. E. Israel that the English Montreal School Board forward this resolution to all Members of the National Assembly.

Vote on Amendment: 14-0-0, Adopted unanimously (Mr. J. Kromida not present for the vote)

Vote on main motion including amendment: 14-0-0, Adopted unanimously (Mr. J. Kromida not present for vote)

Resolution #21-02-24-18

Director General Reporting – By-Law No. 10 – Delegation of Powers

19.

Mr. Copeman reported This item was presented for information only to the Council of Commissioners on the delegation of power to date by the Director General.

Other Business

20.

Anti-Bullying Day

Mr. J. Fabian acknowledged the proactive stance that schools are taking in support of pink shirt day and anti-bullying.

Adjournment

21.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Vote: 14-0-0 (Mr. J. Kromida not present for the vote), Adopted

Resolution # 21-02-24-21