

PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
Western Québec School Board

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at the Western Québec School Board, 15 rue Katimavik, Gatineau, Québec, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners Brunke, Chiasson, Davidson, Dexter, Garbutt, Guy (by telephone), Hendry, Lanyi, Larivière (by video-conference), O'Brien, Perry, Shea, Taylor, Wilson and Young, Parent Commissioners Gibbons and Komm

Personnel:

Director of Education, Adult Education and Vocational Training, R. Ahern
Director of Education, M. Dubeau
Director of Buildings, Equipment and Transportation, C. O'Shea
Assistant Director of Student Services, B. Burn
Assistant Director of Human Resources, D. Giroux

REGRETS: Commissioner Daly, Gunn, Jawbone and McCrank.

The Director General, M. Dawson, the Assistant Director General/Director of Finance, P. Lamoureux and the Director of Legal Services and Human Resources/Secretary General, R. Vézina were also present.

Call to Order

The Chair, Commissioner Chiasson, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

C-11/12-1

Approval of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dexter that the Agenda be approved with the addition of:

- 3.1 Finance
- 8.6 Election of Member on EPC
- 8.7 Election of Member on PIC

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-2

Approval of Minutes – June 28, 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that the Minutes of a meeting held on June 28, 2011 be approved with a spelling correction.

Carried unanimously

Chairman's Remarks

The Chair welcomed Debbie MacDonald and congratulated her on being elected President of WQTA. He then proceeded to report on the following topics:

- Mme Beauchamp's nomination as Vice Premier Ministre

- QESBA has been busy showing that the administration model in English boards is very effective
- Taxation rates are an issue because of differences between boards on the same territory
- He informed council of Buddy Jawbone's resignation – a replacement needs to be nominated within 30 days; he will contact the Governing Board Chair at G. Théberge and ask for recommendations.

Finance

Commissioner Young made the following comments with respect to the Board's financial situation:

- our contingency was made smaller as part of the last budget
- we have received a compression from the Ministry with respect to pay increases and pay equity
- he believes our contingency will be used by Christmas
- Bill 20: we must reduce administration costs by 20%
- he questioned the hiring of our Communications Officer
- he foresees a deficit for this school year.

Paul Lamoureux confirmed that two weeks ago the Minister of Finance forecasted a decrease in GDP growth that could represent a 66 000 000 \$ shortfall for school boards; for us, this could represent an additional reduction of 600 000 \$ in last year's budget. This year, we paid out 400 000 \$ of retroactive pay and we have now been instructed to absorb this; 200 000 \$ of equity payments will also have to be absorbed. H1N1 expenses will not be covered.

Director General's Report

- The Director General mentioned that the paintings/drawings on this building's walls are from last year's student Art exhibition;
- He presented Commissioner Brunke's 'General Framework Communications Plan', which will establish a general framework for future communications.

C-11/12-3

General Framework Communications Plan

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Davidson to thank Commissioner Brunke for her good work on this plan.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner O'Brien suggested that Commissioner Brunke sit on the selection committee for the Communications Manager position to be posted shortly.

C-11/12-4

Communications Manager

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that this position be posted.

For: 13

Against 1 (Commissioner Young)

Motion carried

Heritage Board of Governors

M. Dawson has completed the two year term of his mandate – his mandate is over and he cannot continue. He mentioned that meetings are scheduled for the last Tuesday of every month. Since no commissioners can commit to these meetings, as they are held at the same time as the meetings of our Council, M. Dawson will ask if an administrator would volunteer.

- C-11/12-5** **Appointment – Marie-Ève Groulx - Replacement Vice-Principal – Lord Aylmer**
 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Lanyi that Marie-Ève Groulx be appointed as Replacement Vice-Principal at Lord Aylmer School for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Carried unanimously
- C-11/12-6** **Appointment – Tara Perrier - Temporary Vice-Principal – D’Arcy McGee/Symmes School**
 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Perry that Tara Perrier be appointed as Temporary Vice-Principal at D’Arcy McGee High School/Symmes Junior High School for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Carried unanimously
- C-11/12-7** **Leave of Absence – Marie-Ève Groulx**
 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Lanyi that Marie-Ève Groulx be granted a Leave of Absence from her teaching duties at D’Arcy McGee High School for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Carried unanimously
- C-11/12-8** **Leave of Absence – Tara Perrier**
 IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Perry that Tara Perrier be granted a Leave of Absence from her teaching duties at D’Arcy McGee High School for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Carried unanimously

Presentation – M. Dawson

- M. Dawson presented commissioners with a document which is a framework entitled “*Issues Concerning Economic Viability*”. He discussed different options with respect to Distant Schools, Aylmer Schools, Upper Gatineau Schools, Gatineau Schools, Adult Education and Board Office. He suggested that these options be discussed by committees and that a sub-committee be struck to develop a working plan.
- Following a suggestion made by Commissioner Davidson, M. Dawson will add K-4 students in the current enrolment statistics. He will also provide a list of Consultants.
- Commissioner Shea suggested that “resource diversification” be considered.
- Commissioner Davidson expressed concern about the options presented; there is no cost/benefit analysis; there are no pros/cons: she would like to see more information.
- Commissioner Guy mentioned that there are savings to be made on infrastructure/efficiency of buildings; he stated that more information is needed.

- Commissioner Young stated that contracts (snow removal/grass cutting) are awarded to the lowest bidder.

C-11/12-9

Issues Concerning Economic Viability

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that council mandate administration to present options with cost benefit analysis, present pros/cons and make recommendations to Council at a Committee of The Whole meeting to be held on November 2, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board Office.

For: 10
Against: 2
Abstentions: 1

Motion carried

QESBA Report

M. Chiasson announced that Anne-Marie Lepage has been appointed as Director of Labour Relations at QESBA.

He reminded everyone that if they cannot attend the Annual General Meeting, commissioners can vote ahead from a distance.

C-11/12-10

Executive Committee Report – September 20, 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Davidson that the Board acknowledge receipt of the draft Executive Committee minutes of September 20, 2011.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-11

Corporate Committee Report – September 6, 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Guy that the Board acknowledge receipt of the draft Corporate Committee minutes of September 6, 2011.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-12

Business Committee Report – September 8, 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the Board acknowledge receipt of the draft Business Committee minutes of September 8, 2011.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-13

Update on Namur

ATTENDU que la Commission Scolaire Western Québec, représentée par le directeur monsieur Colin O'Shea, a déposé les plans préparés par monsieur Luc Fortin, architecte pour l'agrandissement des locaux de l'École Intégrée de Namur;

ATTENDU que la Commission Scolaire Western Québec demande qu'une partie de terrain appartenant à la municipalité

de Namur leur soit cédée pour effectuer l'agrandissement des locaux tel que prévu aux plans déposés;

R2011-08-04-01 Il est proposé par le conseiller Lorne Graham

QUE les plans d'agrandissement des locaux de l'École Intégrée de Namur qui ont été déposés par monsieur O'Shea de la Commission Scolaire Western Québec soit acceptés;

QUE la demande de la Commission Scolaire Western Québec pour l'addition d'une partie de terrain appartenant à la municipalité de Namur tel qu'indiqué aux plans d'agrandissement soit acceptée;

QUE le prix de vente qui a été approuvé par la municipalité de Namur par voie de résolution numéro R2011-06-02-02 pour un montant de 98 000\$ demeure le même et que le terrain cédé par la municipalité de Namur soit ajouté au contrat.

Adoptée à l'unanimité

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the resolution be approved.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-14

Tender: Paper Order 2011-2014 (3 years)

WHEREAS the above mentioned project was by invitation;

WHEREAS four (4) tenders were received;

Unisource	58 128.55\$
Grand & Toy	65 517.24\$
Fredal Solutions	66 024.39\$
Xerox Canada	66 064.98\$

WHEREAS two (2) bids did not conform to specifications;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the bid submitted by Fredal Solutions in the amount of 66 024,39 \$ be approved.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-15

Tender: Water Testing 2011-2014 (3 years)

WHEREAS the above mentioned project was by invitation to tender;

WHEREAS three (3) tenders were received;

Biolab Que des solutions	18 301.50\$
Techneau conseil	25 564.80\$
Aquatech	27 825.00\$

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that, as recommended by the Business Committee, the bid submitted by Biolab Que des solutions in the amount of 18 301,50\$ be approved.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-16

Education Committee Report – September 14, 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that the Board acknowledge receipt of the draft Education Committee minutes of September 14, 2011.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-17

Request for Home Schooling

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-18

Request for Home Schooling

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-19

Request for Home Schooling

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-20

Request for Home Schooling

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-21**Request for Home Schooling**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-22**Request for Home Schooling**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-23**Request for Home Schooling**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-24**Request for Home Schooling**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning is carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-25**Request for Home Schooling**

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning are carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-26

Request for Home Schooling

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the request to home school XXXXXXXXXXXX for the 2011-2012 school year and administration ensure appropriate evaluations of student learning are carried out according to policy.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-27

Research Study

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that, as recommended by the Education Committee, Council approve the Pierre Collette (University of Québec en Outaouais) study on parent's attitude to education.

Carried unanimously

T.E.O. Alliance to support postsecondary education in the Outaouais

The Chairman welcomed Louise Brunet, Director General of Heritage College. She stated that Heritage College cannot afford not to be part of this cause. Heritage is growing and additional programs are being asked for. The student population is asking for more services; space is an issue at Heritage; there is a need in the region for skilled workforce; to be able to expand, government support is needed. She wants the support of the Anglophone community. She asked that commissioners support this initiative.

C-11/12-28

Alliance to support postsecondary education in the Outaouais

WHEREAS the people of Outaouais live in a region that for many decades has made a strong contribution to Québec's economic development and to the well-being of its citizens, however, at present, the state of higher education clearly jeopardizes our growth, and it is together that we must take action;

WHEREAS this threatening situation stems from the fact that thousands of students from the Outaouais region currently pursue their higher education in Ottawa; they are thus not contributing to our region's economy as their exodus represents a yearly net loss of at least \$25,000,000 for the institutions of higher education in the Outaouais; nor are they meeting our urgent needs for a qualified workforce, since 25% of the qualifications obtained in Ontario are not recognized in Québec;

WHEREAS within three years, the Outaouais region will create more than 35,800 jobs, and 61% of these jobs will require a post-secondary education from institutions whose diplomas are recognized in Québec; despite the various initiatives undertaken in recent years with the Québec government to overcome the lack of programs, infrastructure and funding required to meet labour market needs, our educational institutions still do not have the resources they need to train the next generation,

particularly in the field of health; the indisputable facts are that colleges in the Outaouais provide 29 fewer technical training programs than those in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and 21 fewer than those in Maurice; similarly, the *Université du Québec en Outaouais* offers respectively 38 and 65 fewer programs than the universities serving those two regions; Furthermore, for ten years, the *Université du Québec en Outaouais* has been deprived of \$15,000,000 in funding;

WHEREAS the people of the Outaouais take the unbalanced state of employment in our region very seriously and we fear, with reason, for the future of our youth;

WHEREAS the members of the *Tables Jeunesse de l'Outaouais* wholeheartedly support the cause of higher education that will improve our living conditions and our employment opportunities for the benefit of the citizens of the region;

WHEREAS the economic stakeholders of the Outaouais want our region to evolve at the same pace as its demographic growth and to finally stop being the most neglected region in the province in terms of infrastructure;

WHEREAS partners representing tens of thousands of people from the educational, economic, social, cultural and sports communities, as well as associations, federations and unions have passed resolutions and published a formal letter of support for the cause of higher education in the Outaouais region;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Lanyi that the Western Québec School Board hereby formally requests that the Québec government provide exceptional and substantial support:

- 1) To enhance program offerings of the higher education institutions in the Outaouais region in line with our urgent, recurrent needs for a qualified workforce;
- 2) To reintegrate the thousands of students who flee to institutions of higher education in Ottawa each year;
- 3) To correct the funding of our university.

C-11/12-29

Call for the vote on Resolution C-11/12-28

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien to call for the vote.

For: 3
 Against: 10
 Abstentions: 0

Motion defeated

Results of the Vote on Resolution C-11/12-28

For: 11
Against: 2 (Commissioners Davidson and Shea)
Abstentions: 0

Motion carried

C-11/12-30

Committee Structure

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Hendry that the Corporate and Finance committees be amalgamated and that the Education Committee remain and a Buildings Committee be struck.

For: 1
Against: 11
Abstentions: 2

Motion denied

It was agreed that the membership of the three Standing Committees remain the same for the next two years.

C-11/12-31

Chairpersons of Standing Committees

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Davidson that the Chairs of the Standing Committees remain the same.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-32

Nominations for two positions for members at large on the Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that Council accept nominations for positions on the Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

Nominations

Commissioner Lanyi
Commissioner Gunn

By

Commissioner O'Brien
Commissioner O'Brien

C-11/12-33

Cease nominations for positions on Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that nominations for positions on the Executive Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

- C-11/12-34** **Election of members of Executive Committee**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that
Commissioners Lanyi and Gunn be declared elected members of
the Executive Committee.
- Carried unanimously
- C-11/12-35** **Nominations for membership on the Educational Policies
Committee (EPC)**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Lanyi that Council accept
nominations for membership on the Educational Policies
Committee.
- Carried unanimously
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Nomination</u> | <u>By</u> |
| Commissioner O'Brien | Commissioner Lanyi |
- C-11/12-36** **Cease nominations for membership on the Educational
Policies Committee**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Lanyi that nominations
cease.
- Carried unanimously
- C-11/12-37** **Election of Commissioner Representative on the Educational
Policies Committee**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Lanyi that Commissioner
O'Brien be declared elected as commissioner representative on
the Educational Policies Committee.
- Carried unanimously
- C-11/12-38** **Nominations for membership on the Professional
Improvement Committee (PIC)**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that Council accept
nominations for membership on the Professional Improvement
Committee.
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Nomination</u> | <u>By</u> |
| Commissioner Shea | Commissioner O'Brien |
- C-11/12-39** **Cease nominations for membership on the Professional
Improvement Committee**
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that nominations
cease.
- Carried unanimously

C-11/12-40 Election of Commissioner Representative on the Professional Improvement Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that Commissioner Shea be declared elected as commissioner representative on the Professional Improvement Committee.

Carried unanimously

Commissioner Hendry left the meeting.

C-11/12-41 Approval of Accounts – March 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the accounts for the month of March 2011 be approved in the amount of \$5,273,854.79.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-42 Approval of Accounts – April 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the accounts for the month of April 2011 be approved in the amount of \$2,911,306.84.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-43 Approval of Accounts – May 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the accounts for the month of May 2011 be approved in the amount of \$3,610,640.53.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-44 Approval of Accounts – June 2011

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Young that the accounts for the month of June 2011 be approved in the amount of \$7,421,413.03.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-45 Transportation Committee Representatives – Other School Boards

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Dexter that the same commissioners be appointed as representatives on the Transportation Committees of Commission scolaire Des Hauts-Bois-de-l'Outaouais, Commission scolaire de l'Or-et-des-Bois, Commission scolaire de Rouyn-Noranda and Commission scolaire du Lac-Témiscamingue.

Carried unanimously

C-11/12-46

Signature – Entente Spécifique – Regional School Success Initiative

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Taylor that the Director General, Mike Dawson, or the Chairman of the Board, Michael Chiasson be authorized to sign the Entente Spécifique pertaining to the Regional School Success Initiative.

Carried unanimously

Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners will be held on October 25, 2011.

C-11/12-47

Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner O'Brien that the meeting be adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Carried unanimously

RV/ed