



Commission scolaire **Riverside**
Riverside School Board

Report to Our Community 2007-2008

"A Team Focusing on Student Success"





Mission Statement

Riverside School Board is committed to providing a stimulating and caring environment which enables all students to achieve personal success.



Message from the Chairman and DG

The 2007-2008 school year has been a highly productive one for Riverside School Board. We are extremely proud of the dedication of our employees, commitment of our parents and support of our community that has contributed to our many accomplishments.

As you know, an education reform is taking place in the schools of Québec and has been for several years. In this past year, a new report card was implemented in both the elementary and secondary sectors. As well, new programmes were introduced in secondary and others were consolidated in elementary. One of the new features of the reform in secondary is an emphasis on work-oriented training programmes leading to vocational or technical education for students best suited to these pathways.

In 2007-2008, Riverside also continued its long-standing tradition of providing students with proven French Immersion and bilingual education programmes. Lastly, we are pleased to confirm that, once again on the MELS 2007 provincial exam results, Riverside students distinguished themselves with the **third highest graduation rate** among the 72 Quebec school boards.

We have a lot to be proud of in the public system especially here at Riverside. The school system has always been an important part of our heritage in the Montérégie & it continues to thrive. With your continued support and input, Riverside School Board is prepared to face each and every challenge.
Moira Bell - Chairman, Kevin Lukian - Director General

French Immersion

Forty-four years after having given birth to the world-renowned educational innovation that is French Immersion, Riverside School Board can still boast the merits of its linguistic endeavours.

Indeed, students from all walks of life thrive in school settings that respect and understand individual linguistic background while promoting high levels of competency in overall literacy, with specific emphasis on efficient French language learning.



Earth School Status

Heritage Regional High School was awarded the prestigious honour of Earth School Status on April 22nd, 2008 by the SEEDS Foundation of Alberta. To achieve this award, the school completed over 1,000 environmental projects carried out over a fifteen-year period.

The projects focused on enhancing the environment, promoting wise and sustainable use of our resources as well as informing the Riverside community on issues concerning environmental awareness, recycling, energy conservation and animal rights.

Heritage is the first school in the province of Quebec to have achieved Earth School Status.



Riverside Council of Commissioners

The Council of Commissioners oversees the operation of all English public schools on the Riverside territory. Commissioners are elected every four years by registered voters and are directly accountable to their constituents. They serve as a critical link between the local community and the school board.

Council also has the responsibility to:

- ❖ Advocate for the needs of their communities.
- ❖ Act as liaison between the local community and the school board.
- ❖ Adopt an annual budget that reflects school board priorities.
- ❖ Set goals and priorities based on vision and provincial policy.
- ❖ Evaluate and review the board's Strategic Plan.
- ❖ Monitor policy and student achievement.
- ❖ Appoint senior administration and evaluate their performance.
- ❖ Lobby municipal and provincial governments on education issues.

The Council of Commissioners is here to listen to the school community and to ensure their views and values are reflected in the decisions made around the table.

The primary responsibility of Council is to ensure all students of the Riverside School Board receive a quality education.



For more information or to contact your Commissioner, please consult the school board website at www.rsb.qc.ca or call (450) 672-4010.

RSB Student Advisory Committee



Riverside's Student Advisory Committee brings together a group of promising young high school student leaders to discuss current issues. The committee has been in place for two years and was an initiative of the Director General and the Chairman of the Board.

Meeting four times a year in one of our schools, the Committee serves as a discussion and feedback forum for our youth. Recent topics have included the Policy on Healthy Living and issues on dealing with violence in our schools.

The Student Advisory Committee serves as a voice for students within the Riverside Community.

Riverside students have the opportunity to have direct input into the functioning of their schools and school board through their participation in the RSB Student Advisory Committee, Governing Boards and student council.

Student Leadership

The primary goal of Riverside schools is to support the development of young people as contributing members of society and prepare our students for life after school.

Through the Leadership program, individual Riverside schools host guest speakers and run leadership camps while students and staff advisors participate in regional, provincial and Canadian student leadership conferences.

The energy, enthusiasm and expertise our students demonstrate leave us extremely confident that the future is in very capable hands.



Balance Sheet as at June 30, 2008

<u>ASSETS</u>		<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Grants receivable	25,262,497 \$	Bank demand loans	18,181,374 \$
Taxes receivable	1,398,828 \$	Accounts payable & deferred revenues	9,412,257 \$
Accounts receivable	2,711,357 \$	Other liabilities	2,246,985 \$
Other assets	565,691 \$	Long-term loan S.B.	3,121,166 \$
Fixed assets	122,647,796 \$	Restricted surplus	2,796,034 \$
		Permanent capital	116,828,353 \$
TOTAL	<u>152,586,169 \$</u>	TOTAL	<u>152,586,169 \$</u>

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures as at June 30, 2008

<u>REVENUES</u>		<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Grants	76,510,903 \$	Activities related to teaching	41,828,356 \$
School taxes	11,240,280 \$	Activities supporting teaching	18,052,626 \$
Other	11,478,859 \$	Complementary activities	12,729,659 \$
TOTAL	<u>99,230,042 \$</u>	Administrative activities	5,738,035 \$
		Building activities	6,278,501 \$
		Other related activities	6,206,013 \$
		Capital	9,695,514 \$
		TOTAL	<u>100,528,704 \$</u>
		SUB-TOTAL	(1,298,662 \$)
		Expenditures awaiting grant and loan	2,674,201 \$
		Excess of expenditures over revenues	1,375,539 \$

Enrolment Statistics

	06/07	07/08
Boucherville	253	256
Cedar Street	197	176
Chambly Academy	549	523
Courtland Park International	234	226
Centennial (CRHS)	1704	1683
Good Shepherd	274	235
Greenfield Park International	311	289
Harold Napper	605	586
Harold Sheppard	75	78
Heritage (HRHS)	1854	1895
John Adam	277	289
Mount Bruno	347	311

	06/07	07/08
Mountainview	279	257
REACH	55	57
Royal Charles	159	145
Royal Oak	157	152
St Johns	871	862
St. Jude	495	454
St. Lambert	470	459
St. Lawrence	566	484
St. Mary's	397	369
The Alternate School (TAS)	58	34
Terry Fox	205	167
William Latter	357	327

Ethics Report

Riverside is proud to announce that no breach of ethics were reported in 2007-2008.



Major renovation and construction is taking place at our Adult Centre on Cleghorn Street in St. Lambert. Entirely financed by the MELS, this impressive 4 million dollar project will allow us to house both Adult and Vocational Education on one site. New space will also permit expansion in the area of vocational options in the trades. Completion is projected for December 2008.

In 2007-2008, as part of our commitment to broadening educational opportunities for all Riverside students, we were able to offer, for the first time, the Nursing Assistance program to our students. It is now the second health option offered by Riverside (along with Assistance to Patients in Health Care Establishments, which has been in place since 2007).



Riverside School Board Strategic Plan 2008-2011 Highlights

Responding to the priorities expressed by our community, our new Strategic Plan for 2008-2011 includes actions on Safe and Caring Schools, Literacy, Mathematics, support for Students with Special Needs and Vocational Education.

The primary focus of the Riverside School Board Strategic Plan is student success. Riverside is consistently among the top five school boards with the highest graduation rates of the 72 public school boards in Quebec. Through the Strategic Plan, it is our intention to build on the considerable successes already enjoyed by our students.

Safe and Caring Schools

The focus of the Safe and Caring Schools Strand is to offer the best possible learning environment for students, teachers and staff alike.

The three goals of this strand include:

1. Implementing a global emergency measure plan;
2. Promoting the integration of our **Code of Conduct** into every aspect of school life and ensuring that all stakeholders understand and respect the standards of behavior set out in it;
3. Assessing current intervention programs and recommending any necessary changes.



Students with Special Needs

The Students with Special Needs Strand focuses on two goals:

1. Creating a board-wide **Individual Education Plan (IEP)** model as a dynamic tool;
2. Providing professional development and on-going support for the teachers and staff who work directly with our students in order to improve their level of awareness and expertise.

We continually look for alternate options for students with more extreme levels of special needs, such as specific programs to address behavior or violence issues.



The Riverside School Board Strategic Plan works to improve communication among our schools and increase understanding among all partners, especially parents, for the continued success of all our students. In the end, the success of the Strategic Plan and its planned interventions will be reflected in our leading graduation rates.

Literacy at the Elementary Level

The Literacy Strand continues to focus on early intervention as well as professional development and support for teachers. Students receive support to ensure they attain expected reading and writing levels by the end of Cycle 1, with extended intervention to at-risk students in Cycle 2. Individual schools are encouraged to incorporate these early literacy goals into their **School Success Plan**.



Mathematics

The Mathematics Strand focuses on solidifying the math knowledge gained by our Cycle 3 elementary students allowing for their smoother transition into high school math programs. The plan encourages more extensive communication between teachers at the elementary and high school levels. A mathematics toolbox of new teaching strategies is being developed and our teachers are being trained to incorporate these new strategies into the classroom. The success of the plan is evaluated through tracking student success and end-of-cycle testing.



Vocational Education

The aim of the Vocational Education Strand is to continue to provide a greater number of educational opportunities for Riverside students through ...

1. Actively promoting vocational education to the Riverside community at large;
2. Increasing the number of trade options offered at **ACCESS**;
3. Improving the accessibility to **ACCESS** by shuttle bus service to and from various locations on and off our territory;
4. Offering individualized programs in core subjects (English, French and Math) at the Secondary 2 and 3 levels for students missing these necessary prerequisites to obtain their high school leaving diploma.

