

Minutes of the proceedings of a **regular** session of the Council of Commissioners for Riverside School Board held at the Administration Centre, 7525, chemin de Chambly, St. Hubert, Québec on **January 19, 2016**.

The Secretary General established that quorum was met and Chairman Dan Lamoureux, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

A. Capobianco Skipworth	D. Lamoureux	Parent Commissioners
C. Craig	L. Llewelyn Cuffling	T. Aguiar
M. Gour	A. Mazur	M. Rayes
C. Horrell	D. Smith	L. Rodrigues

Regrets : P. Booth Morrison, D. Butler, H. Dumont

Absent : D. Smyth, P. Chouinard

Also present

Sylvain Racette, Director General
Pierre Farmer, Assistant Director General
Denise Paulson, Secretary General
Michel Bergeron, Director of Financial Resources
Wendy Bernier, Director of Human Resources
Mary Williams, Director of Educational Services
Gail Somerville, Director of Complementary Services
Lucie Roy, Director of Adult and Continuing Education

Presence noted

A. Audet, D. Fournier, J. Ruel, N. Gruenefeld, A. Velin

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Capobianco Skipworth, and seconded by Commissioner Mazur, that the agenda be adopted and that a copy be appended to the Minutes of this meeting.
UNANIMOUS

Good Shepherd School students report on their experience at WE Day in Ottawa.

On November 10th Grade 6 students attended WE Day in Ottawa. Aidan Byrne and Nicholas Gils provided information about the inspirational speakers who were present, including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau whose message was that young people can make a difference in their world (Be leaders today, instead of waiting for tomorrow). A PowerPoint presentation featuring the Kenyan Boys Choir was shown and will be posted on the Board's website.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 15, 2015:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Craig, seconded by Commissioner Aguiar, that the Minutes of the meeting held on December 15, 2015, be adopted.

UNANIMOUS

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Director General followed up:

- The 2014-2015 Annual Report has been publicized throughout the community.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS : None

CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR GENERAL

Chair's report – D. Lamoureux

Attended the following :

- December 16 – QESBA Press Conference
- December 18 – QESBA Executive
- January 11 – Parents' Committee
- January 12 – RSB Work Session
- January 13 – LRAC Meeting, QESBA; QESBA Conference Call; RSB Student Appeal hearing
- January 18 – RSB Town Hall Committee

Director General's report – S. Racette

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- › December 16 – QESBA Press Conference on Bill 86
- › January 14 – Leadership Committee for English Education in Quebec (LCEEQ) meeting – Hot topics : Language policy and Bill 86: January 15 – ADIGECS Think Tank on Bill 86
- › January 19 – Community Learning Center (CLC) 10th Anniversary Conference

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- › Daycare subsidy
- › Access' request to start a *Hand Micro Soldering and Introduction to Surface Mount Technology* was approved.
- › Dianne Kilpatrick, VP at Centennial, lost her husband to cancer.
- › John Adam Kindergarten teacher, Doreen Stewart, passed away before Christmas. Thanks to the Complementary Services team for offering support to the staff members and students. Doreen was the daughter of former employee, Monika Stewart's. Our sincere condolences to the family.
- › L'infolettre de LEARN/CSC et le rapport d'activités de Brian Peddar pour le RVCLC sont maintenant disponibles.
- › Kindergarten Registration begins on January 25th
- › Open Houses in high schools
 - Heritage : January 21 – From 6h30 to 8h30
 - SLI : January 27 – From 6h30 to 8h30
 - Centennial : January 28 – From 6h to 9h
 - St-Johns : January 21 – From 6h30 to 8h30
- › Optimization measures 2015-2016 – The Government did not accept part two of our project with NFSB, but other projects, such as a review of our administrative structure and how we are managing our CSST claims were accepted. More information will be available shortly.

- Our request for two new CLCs was accepted. St-Johns and St-Lawrence will be opening their doors even wider to their community and will become hubs for lifelong learning opportunities!

HATS OFF

- To Mary Sarli for offering her assistance to new school secretaries (Boucherville, St. Jude and Courtland Park Int'l) during registration period. She will be present in each of their schools to offer assistance on eligibility applications.
- To Clémence Trotéchaud and GPI School as they already have 52 new registrations for next year and the 44 places in grade 1 are already filled. Clémence points out that 20 of the 52 new students come from a private school or another school board.
- To the ACCESS Christmas Basket Committee for preparing and delivering 24 baskets, affecting 33 children, in their ACCESS community.

Parents' Committee: T. Aguiar for M. Rayes

The last RSB Parent Committee took place on January 11th.

The following topics were discussed:

- 1) Bill 86
- 2) Sex-education in schools
- 3) Impact on budget cuts on students (mainly with regards to the elimination of the French Immersion consultant).
- 4) Priorities (mainly bilingualism and student success).

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 1st 2016 but may be moved to February 2nd.

Special Needs Advisory Committee: L. Rodrigues

No report, no quorum on January 13. Next meeting February 24.

REPORTS (non-voting items only)

Executive –

No report

Transportation Advisory – L. Cuffling

Meeting on January 22, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

Education – D. Smith

No report. Meeting to be held on January 25 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Audit (Finance/Material Resources) A. Mazur

No meeting. Next meeting at the call of the Chair.

Governance and Ethics – L. Cuffling

No meeting

Human Resources – M. Gour

No meeting

Marketing and Communications - C. Craig

No meeting

QESBA – A. Capobianco

Meeting on January 29 in Montreal; presentation on Bill 86. Full report after next Friday. QESBA working very hard.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution F178-20160119

LONG-TERM BORROWING PLAN

WHEREAS in accordance with section 78 of the Financial Administration Act (RLRQ, Chapter A-6.001), Riverside School Board (*hereinafter referred to as the Borrower*) plans to contract long-term borrowings up to a total amount outstanding of \$23 784 000 until September 30, 2016;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 83 of the said Act that the Borrower may, under such long-term borrowing plan, grant the exercise of its borrowing power or the power to approve its terms and conditions to at least two of its executives;

WHEREAS it is deemed appropriate to authorize a borrowing plan covering the borrowings to be contracted by the Borrower, establish the maximum amount of the borrowings that may be made under the plan, establish the characteristics and limits in relation to the borrowings to be made under the plan and authorize the executives of the Borrower to conclude any borrowing transaction under such plan, establish its amounts and other characteristics and accept the terms and conditions relating to each of these transactions;

WHEREAS the Minister of Education, a higher Education and Research (*hereinafter referred to as the Minister*) has authorized the institution by Borrower of this borrowing plan, according to the conditions to which his letter of December 11, 2015 refers.

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Mazur, seconded by Commissioner Cuffling:

1. THAT a borrowing plan, under which the Borrower may, subject to the characteristics and limits stated hereinafter, conclude from time to time, from now to September 30, 2016, long-term borrowing transactions for not more than \$23 784 000, be instituted;
2. THAT the borrowing transactions made by the Borrower under this borrowing plan be subject to the following characteristics and limits:
 - a) despite the provisions of paragraph 1 above, the Borrower may not, during each of the fifteen-month periods extending from July 1st to September 30th and included in the period covered in paragraph 1, make borrowing transactions that would result in the total amount approved for the Borrower, for such period, by the *Conseil du trésor* on account of the long-term borrowing program for school boards being exceeded;
 - b) the Borrower may not make a borrowing transaction unless it receives a subsidy from the Québec government in accordance with the standards established by the *Conseil du trésor* for the granting or the promise of subsidies to school boards as well as with the terms and conditions determined by the Minister and providing for the payment of the principal and interest of the borrowing concerned even if,

otherwise, payment of such subsidy is subject to the funds required for such purpose be voted annually by Parliament;

- c)** each borrowing transaction may be made only in legal currency of Canada to the Minister of Finance, as manager of the Financing Fund;
 - d)** the proceeds of each borrowing transaction may be used, other than for the payment of the expenses inherent in the borrowing, only to fund the capital expenditures and the expenses inherent in the investments of the Borrower subsidized by the Minister according to the budgetary rules;
3. THAT for the purposes of determining the total amount to which paragraph 1 above refers, only the face amount of the borrowings made by the Borrower is taken into account;
4. THAT, in addition to the characteristics and limits stated above, loans include the following characteristics:
- a)** the Borrower may contract one or more loans throughout the duration of the borrowing plan, up to the amount provided therein, taking into account the amount that could be allocated to one or more loans made through the issuance of Bonds, subject to the conditions of a single loan agreement concluded between the Borrower and the Minister of Finance, as manager of the Financing Fund;
 - b)** each loan shall be documented by a note made out to the Minister of Finance, as manager of the Financing Fund;
 - c)** the rate of interest payable on loans shall be set on the basis of criteria established by the government under Decree No. 1267-2001 of October 24, 2001 respecting the criteria for setting interest rates on loans, and the nature of the costs to be included in calculating interest rates and loan repayment schedules modified under Decree number 1057-2013 of October 23, 2013, approved under section 24 of the Act respecting the Ministère des Finances (RLRQ, Chapter M-24.01), as said Decree may be amended or replaced from time to time; and
 - d)** in order to ensure that payment at maturity of the principal of each loan and the interest due thereupon, the receivable for the Borrower represented by the grant to be awarded to the Borrower by the Minister, on behalf of the Government of Québec, shall be the subject of a chattel mortgage without dispossession in favor of the Minister of Finance, as manager of the Financing Fund.
5. THAT the Borrower be authorized to pay, from the proceeds of each loan contracted in accordance with the conditions of the borrowing plan through the Minister of Finance, as manager of the Financing Fund, the agreed costs of issuance and management;
6. THAT any of the following executives:
- the Chairman
 - or the Director General
 - or the Assistant Director General
 - or the Director of Finance and Transportation

of the Borrower, **providing there are two of them acting jointly**, be authorized, on behalf of the Borrower, to sign the loan agreement, the chattel mortgage agreement and the note, consent to any laws or guarantees not substantially incompatible with the provisions hereof, receive the net proceeds of loans and validly discharge them, issue the note, make any amendments to the aforesaid documents not substantially incompatible herewith, and take any action and sign any document necessary or useful to give full effect hereto;

7. THAT, should the Borrower have already passed a resolution instituting a long-term borrowing plan, this resolution replaces the earlier resolution, without affecting the validity of the borrowings made under its authority before the date of this borrowing plan.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B558-20160119

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION REGARDING BILL 86 ON SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE

WHEREAS BILL 86 refers to *An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards to give schools a greater say in decision-making and ensure parents' participation within each school board's decision-making body*, which was introduced at the National Assembly of Québec on December 4th, 2015;

WHEREAS Section 23 (1) of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms), confers minority language educational rights;

WHEREAS the court case 'Mahe v. Alberta (1990)' clearly defines minority language educational rights, including the right to manage and control minority language community educational facilities;

WHEREAS the English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA), the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN), the Quebec English School Board Association (QESBA) and the Quebec Federation of Home and Schools Association (QFHSA) have been working to ensure that our constitutional minority community language rights are protected as the provincial government moves ahead with plans to reform Quebec's Education system;

WHEREAS there is a fundamental link between Quebec's English schools and the Anglophone communities they serve;

WHEREAS Bill 86 would take away rights of the Quebec Anglophone community to manage and control its school boards;

WHEREAS Riverside School Board supports the principles and recommendations contained in the Election System Study Panel 2015 (the 'Jennings Report'), which consulted widely throughout the English linguistic minority community, and included the recommendation giving Parent Commissioners the right to vote at the Council of Commissioners;

WHEREAS Bill 86 would remove powers from the democratically elected Council of Commissioners and confer them on the Minister, resulting in an encroachment on areas exclusive to minority language educational rights holders;

WHEREAS Bill 86 would dissolve the Riverside Council of Commissioners that was legally

and legitimately elected by the Anglophone community on November 2, 2014;

WHEREAS the modifications proposed would have a significant impact on schools and school boards, including centralizing power at the Ministry and giving the Minister the power to veto decisions made by Anglophone School Councils, control the educational programming, and close Anglophone schools;

WHEREAS the modifications have no positive impact on student success, but will negatively affect students by causing uncertainty in the education system;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec has offered no pressing or substantial reason why it needs to amend the current sound, efficient and successful system of school board governance

IT IS MOVED by Chairman Dan Lamoureux and seconded by Commissioner Lesley Cuffling that the Council of Commissioners of Riverside School Board

Rejects Bill 86, *An Act to modify the organization and governance of school boards to give schools a greater say in decision-making and ensure parents' presence within each school board's decision-making body*;

Demands that the Government of Quebec acknowledge its duty to support and respect Quebecers' minority language educational rights;

Demands that the Government of Quebec formally withdraw draft Bill 86.

Demands that the Government of Quebec formally recognize, and enter into a formal and comprehensive consultation with the English linguistic minority community to identify and address our legitimate right to control and manage our institutions.

Demands that the Government of Quebec prioritize public education and student success, which is of the utmost importance to future generations of Quebec citizens.

Demands that the Government of Quebec address the long-standing concern of the Anglophone community, the inequality of school taxation between Anglophone and Francophone school boards.

FURTHERMORE, we encourage Riverside parents and community members to voice their concerns to their local Members of the National Assembly regarding Bill 86; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to our partners in Education including the Riverside School Board Parents Committee, the Quebec English School Boards Association and its members, EPCA, Riverside Teachers' Union, Riverside Association of Administrators, Association Quebecoise des cadres scolaires, Syndicate of Montreal Area Services Professionals, Local 800, SEU, Local 576 SEPB, the Association of Directors General of English School Boards, as well as to Mr. Philippe Couillard, Premier of Quebec, Mr. François Blais, Minister of Education, Higher Education Research and Science, and all members of the National Assembly on our territory as well as fellow French School Boards, QCGN, QFHSA and Mrs. Marlene Jennings.

UNANIMOUS

Chairman Lamoureux and Commissioners Capobianco Skipworth, Craig, Gour, Horrell, Cuffling, Mazur, Morrison (by telephone) and Smith asked to have their votes recorded. Parent-commissioners Aguiar and Rodrigues also indicated that they supported this resolution.

OTHER BUSINESS

Correspondence - As listed in Appendix "A" to these Minutes. Copies available to the public.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS :

- D. Fournier asked why the Board Is taking out a loan. M. Bergeron explained.
- D. Fournier asked why Bill 86 appeared for the first time on the agenda. The Chair explained the process.

BRAVOS

Commissioner Capobianco Skipworth applauded the Good Shepherd students for a very interesting presentation. She feels it needs to be shared with the community.

Commissioner Gour congratulated the Town Hall sub-committee on a job well done – good resolution before Council tonight.

OTHER BUSINESS

CLOSING:

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Horrell, at 8:50, that the meeting be closed.

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Dan Lamoureux, Chairman

Denise Paulson, Secretary General



CONSEIL DES COMMISSAIRES COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

Members are hereby convened to a **regular** meeting on
January 19, 2016, at the Administration Centre
7525 chemin de Chambly, St. Hubert, QC

AGENDA – REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order and Quorum
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. **Presentation by Good Shepherd School**
4. Approval of Minutes
 - Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2015
 - Business arising from the Minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2015
5. Questions from the Public – 30 minutes
6. Chairman's Remarks
7. Director General's Remarks
8. Parent Committee Report
9. Special Needs Advisory Report
10. Committee Reports
 - Executive
 - Transportation
 - Education
 - Audit (Finance/Mat. Resources)
 - Governance and Ethics
 - Human Resources
 - Communications
 - Q.E.S.B.A.
11. Resolutions
 - Adoption of a Long-Term Loan
 - Reaction to Bill 86
12. Correspondence
13. Questions from the Public – 20 minutes
14. Bravos (2 minutes per member)
15. Other Business
16. Close of Meeting
17. Date of Next Regular Meeting: **February 16, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.**

Given at Saint-Hubert, Québec, on January 15, 2016

Denise Paulson, Secretary General



CORRESPONDENCE - RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD
2016-01-19

<i>FROM</i>	<i>TYPE</i>	<i>SUBJECT</i>
Nathalie Parenteau, Direction générale du financement MEESR	Letter to the Chairman	Long term loan