

Province of Quebec

Western Quebec School Board

Minutes of the **Council of Commissioners** meeting held on November 12, 2024, at the Western Quebec School Board office, 15, rue Katimavik at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Labadie, Commissioners Brushey, Cornforth, Green, Giannakoulis, Goldsbrough, Garner, McCrank, Moore, Killeen, Parent-Commissioners Fortier, Bouchard, Rhéault and James.

REGRETS: Commissioner Bélanger

PERSONNEL: Director of Complementary Services L. Falasconi, Director of Human Resources A. Paquin, Director of Finance M. Lupien, Contract Compliance Officer A. Gendron, and Head of Administrative Management R. Vincent.

The Director General, Mr. G. Singfield, the Secretary General, Mr. E. Keon, and the Assistant Director General / Director of Buildings and Technology, Mr. P. Proulx, were also present.

- Land acknowledgment by Director General Singfield

Call to Order: 7:02 p.m.

C-24/25-34 Adoption of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Commissioner Giannakoulis that the agenda be adopted as presented with the addition of:

- Agenda Item 5.2 – Resolution for the adoption of Commissioner remuneration distribution model

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-35 Acknowledgement of Minutes – September 24, 2024

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier and seconded by Commissioner Cornforth that the minutes of a meeting held on September 24, 2024, be acknowledged as received.

Carried unanimously

Director General's Report

As part of his report, Director General Singfield discussed the following topics:

- Presented the Senior Administration Team
- WQSB Mission Statement

- Commitment to Success Plan
- Ministry of Education Objectives
- WQSB Directions and Orientations
- WQSB Enrolment
- I2A
- The MEQ Gel d'embauche / Cibles de dépenses / Bill 40
- Spring Conference

Commissioner's Stipend Distribution

The Assistant Director General Proulx presented different options available to commissioners regarding the distribution of their stipend based on the Government Decree.

C-24/25-36 Commissioner's Stipend Distribution

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier to opt for option 1.

For: 9

Against: 4

Motion Carried

C-24/25-37 Election Procedures

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that the elections of the members of the Executive Committee and all other committees be held by secret ballot.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-38 Appointment of Scrutineers

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard and seconded by Commissioner Giannakoulis that all Senior Directors present and the Head of Administrative Management be appointed as scrutineers for the election of the members of the Executive Committee and all other committees.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-39 Nominations for the Position of Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Killeen and seconded by Commissioner Garner that Council accept nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners.

Nominations

Commissioner McCrank
Parent-Commissioner Fortier
Commissioner Cornforth

By

Parent-Commissioner Fortier
Commissioner Killeen
Parent-Commissioner Bouchard

C-24/25-40 Cease Nominations for the Position of Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Garner and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-41 Declaration of Election of Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Green and seconded by Commissioner Garner that Commissioner Cornforth be declared elected as Vice-Chair of the Council of Commissioners.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-42 Nominations for Positions of Voting Members on the Executive Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that Council accept nominations for the five (5) positions of voting members on the Executive Committee.

Nominations

Commissioner Goldsbrough
Parent-Commissioner Fortier
Commissioner Garner
Commissioner Green
Commissioner Cornforth
Commissioner Killeen
Commissioner Giannakoulis

By

Commissioner Cornforth
Self
Self
Self
Parent-Commissioner Bouchard
Self
Self

C-24/25-43 Cease Nominations for Positions of Voting Members on the Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner McCrank and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard that nominations for positions of voting members on the Executive Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-44 Declaration of Election of Voting Members on the Executive Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier, and seconded by Commissioner Giannakoulis that Commissioners Goldsbrough, Green, Killeen, Cornforth and Parent-Commissioner Fortier be declared elected as voting members of the Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-45 Motion to Extend for 30 minutes
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Killeen and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard to extend the meeting time by 30 minutes.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-46 Nominations for the Position of Parent-Commissioner on the Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that Council accept nominations for the position of Parent-Commissioner on the Executive Committee.

Nominations

Parent-Commissioner Bouchard
Parent-Commissioner Rhéault

By

Parent-Commissioner Fortier
Self

C-24/25-47 Cease Nominations for the Position of Parent-Commissioner on the Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Goldsbrough and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that nominations for the position of Parent-Commissioner on the Executive Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-48 Declaration of Election of Parent-Commissioner on the Executive Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Giannakoulis and seconded by Commissioner Goldsbrough that Parent-Commissioner Rhéault be declared elected as member of the Executive Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-49 Nominations for Commissioner Membership on the WQSB Transportation Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Giannakoulis and seconded by Commissioner Killeen that Council accept nominations for two (2) member positions on the Transportation Committee.

Nominations

Parent-Commissioner Bouchard
Commissioner Giannakoulis
Commissioner Moore

By

Self
Self
Self

C-24/25-50 Cease Nominations for Membership on the Transportation Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier and seconded by Commissioner Garner that nominations for the positions of member on the WQSB Transportation Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-51 Declaration of Election of Members of the Transportation Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brushey and seconded by Commissioner Garner that Commissioner Moore and Parent-Commissioner Bouchard be declared elected as members of the Transportation Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-52 Nominations for Commissioner Membership on the Governance & Ethics Committee

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier and seconded by Commissioner Cornforth that Council accept nominations for the positions of member (2 commissioners, 1 parent-commissioner) on the Governance & Ethics Committee.

Nominations

Commissioner Green
Commissioner Garner
Parent-Commissioner James
Commissioner Bélanger
Commissioner Goldsbrough

By

Self
Self
Self
Proxy
Self

C-24/25-53 Cease Nominations for Membership on the Governance & Ethics Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that nominations for the positions of member on the Governance & Ethics Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-54 Declaration of Election of Members of the Governance & Ethics Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Goldsbrough and seconded by Commissioner Giannakoulis that Commissioners Green, Garner, and Parent-Commissioner James be declared elected as members of the Governance & Ethics Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-55 Nominations for Commissioner Membership on the Audit Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Commissioner Moore that Council accept nominations for the positions of member on the Audit Committee.

Nominations

Commissioner McCrank
Commissioner Giannakoulis
Commissioner Cornforth

By

Parent-Commissioner Fortier
Commissioner Brushey
Self

C-24/25-56 Cease Nominations for Membership on the Audit Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Goldsbrough and seconded by Commissioner Green that nominations for the positions of member on the Audit Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-57 Declaration of Election of Members of the Audit Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Goldsbrough and seconded by Commissioner Giannakoulis that Commissioners McCrank, Giannakoulis and Cornforth be declared elected as members of the Audit Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-58 Nominations for Commissioner Membership on the Human Resources Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard and seconded by Commissioner Green that Council accept nominations for the three (3) positions of member on the Human Resources Committee.

Nominations

Commissioner Goldsbrough
Commissioner Garner
Commissioner Giannakoulis

By

Commissioner Green
Self
Self

C-24/25-59 Cease Nominations for Membership on the Human Resources Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier and seconded by Commissioner McCrank that nominations for the positions of member on the Human Resources Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-60 Declaration of Election of Members of the Human Resources Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner James that Commissioners Goldsbrough, Garner and Giannakoulis be declared elected as members of the Human Resources Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-61 Nominations for Commissioner Membership on the Discipline Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Green and seconded by Commissioner Brushey that Council accept nominations for the five (5) positions of member on the Discipline committee.

Nominations

Commissioner Killeen

Commissioner Brushey

Commissioner Moore

Commissioner Garner

Parent-Commissioner James

Commissioner Giannakoulis

Parent-Commissioner Bouchard

Parent-Commissioner Fortier

By

Self

Parent-Commissioner Fortier

Self

Self

Self

Self

Self

Self

C-24/25-62 Cease Nominations for Membership on the Discipline Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Commissioner Green that nominations for the five (5) positions of member on the Discipline Committee cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-63 Declaration of Election of the Members on Discipline Committee
IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner McCrank and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that Commissioners Killeen, Garner and Giannakoulis, and Parent-Commissioners Bouchard and Fortier, be declared elected as members of the Discipline Committee.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-64 Nomination for Board Member of QESBA
IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier and seconded by Commissioner McCrank that Council accept nominations for the position of Board member of QESBA.

Nominations

Commissioner Killeen

Commissioner Garner

By

Self

Self

C-24/25-65 Cease nominations for Board Member of QESBA

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Commissioner Giannakoulis that nominations for the position of Board member of QESBA cease.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-66 Election of Board Member to QESBA

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Brushey and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Fortier that Commissioner Killeen be declared elected as Board Member of QESBA.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-67 Motion to Postpone to a Certain Time

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Fortier and seconded by Commissioner Cornforth to postpone the following agenda items to the next regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners scheduled for December 17, 2024, at 7 p.m.:

- Agenda items 6.12 through to 6.17, as well as items 8.3, 8.4, 8.6, and 8.7, along with items 11.1 and 11.2.

Carried unanimously

Agenda item 8.1

C-24/25-68 Derogation Request No. 24560G006 to the WQSB Purchasing Policy No. D-11 to Enter into a Mutual Agreement with the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf (MOSD) for the 2024-2025 School Year and Subsequent Years.

WHEREAS the Western Quebec School Board wishes to enter into a mutual agreement contract with the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf for the 2024-2025 school year and subsequent years;

WHEREAS the contract start date is November 30, 2024, and the contract end date is November 29, 2025, renewable annually;

WHEREAS *s. 6.4 Mutual Agreement Contract*, the WQSB Purchasing Policy states that:

- a) The School Board may use a mutual agreement process for contracts of an estimated value below \$5,000;
- b) The School Board communicates directly with at least one supplier, indicating the good(s), service(s) or construction work(s) required and any other relevant information;
- c) Before entering into a contract by mutual agreement, the School Board must ensure that fair prices and conditions are obtained;

WHEREAS the value of this contract to be entered into by mutual agreement is above the threshold of \$5,000 for a mutual agreement contract;

WHEREAS the tendering process for a contract above \$5,000 requires 3 written quotes;

WHEREAS Policy D-11, s. 7 provides an exception to the tendering process:

Except for contracts where the estimated expenditure is equal to or above the thresholds established by the Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies, the Council of Commissioners may authorize the School Board, in exceptional circumstances and for legitimate reasons, to enter into a contract without following the tendering processes described herein.

WHEREAS the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf has provided integrated services for our students in the past and is the only firm that can provide this service to the WQSB;

WHEREAS the annual value of the contract is estimated at \$78,000;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner McCrank and seconded by Commissioner Garner that Council approve the derogation request to enter into a mutual agreement contract with Montreal Oral School for the Deaf for the 2024-2025 school year and subsequent years.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-69 Derogation Request No. 24520G001 to the WQSB Purchasing Policy No. D-11 to Enter into a Mutual Agreement with Scolago Innovation Inc. for the 2024-2025 School Year and Subsequent Years.

WHEREAS the Western Quebec School Board wishes to enter into a mutual agreement contract with Scolago Innovation Inc. for the 2024-2025 school year and subsequent years;

WHEREAS the contract start date is November 30, 2024, and the contract end date is November 29, 2025, renewable annually;

WHEREAS in *s. 6.4 Mutual Agreement Contract*, the WQSB Purchasing Policy states that:

- a) The School Board may use a mutual agreement process for contracts of an estimated value below \$5,000;
- b) The School Board communicates directly with at least one supplier, indicating the good(s), service(s) or construction work(s) required and any other relevant information;
- c) Before entering into a contract by mutual agreement, the School Board must ensure that fair prices and conditions are obtained;

WHEREAS the value of this contract to be entered into by mutual agreement is above the threshold of \$5,000 for a mutual agreement contract;

WHEREAS the tendering process for a contract above \$5,000 requires 3 written quotes;

WHEREAS Policy D-11, s. 7 provides an exception to the tendering process:

Except for contracts where the estimated expenditure is equal to or above the thresholds established by the Act Respecting Contracting by Public Bodies, the Council of Commissioners may authorize the School Board, in

exceptional circumstances and for legitimate reasons, to enter into a contract without following the tendering processes described herein.

WHEREAS Scolago Innovation Inc. provides a software for the management of supply teacher needs and it's the only software solution that is compatible with the GRICS software (Pay, GPI);

WHEREAS the annual value of the contract is estimated at \$45,000;

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Cornforth and seconded by Commissioner Green that Council approve the derogation request to enter into a mutual agreement contract with Scolago Innovation Inc. for the 2024-2025 school year and subsequent years.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-70 Appointment of Person Responsible for Ethics and Integrity for the Western Quebec School Board

WHEREAS the Act to enact the Act respecting protection against reprisals related to the disclosure of wrongdoings and to amend other legislative provisions, SQ 2024, c 21 . . . (SQ 2016, c 34) takes effect on November 30, 2024;

WHEREAS the Act stipulates that school boards must abolish the position of *Officer responsible for dealing with disclosures of wrongdoings* established in 2016 through previous legislation;

WHEREAS the Act stipulates that school boards must appoint a Person in Charge of Ethics and Integrity (s. 32);

WHEREAS the Director General has reviewed the roles of the position outlined in the Act and is recommending that Council appoint the Secretary General to this position;

IT WAS MOVED BY Commissioner Killeen and seconded by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard that Secretary General Mr. Eldon Keon be appointed to serve as the Person in Charge of Ethics and Integrity as stipulated in the Act.

Carried unanimously

C-24/25-71 Adjournment

IT WAS MOVED by Parent-Commissioner Bouchard and seconded by Commissioner Killeen that the meeting be adjourned at 12:05 a.m.

Carried unanimously