

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. in the Laurence Patterson Conference Room, 6000 Fielding Avenue.

Commissioners Present:

Me Joe Ortona, Chair  
Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Mario Benvolato, Commissioner (by Teams)  
Ms. Maria Corsi, Parent Commissioner  
Ms. Sophie De Vito, Commissioner (by Teams)  
Mr. Jamie Fabian, Commissioner  
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner  
Ms. Ellie Israel, Commissioner  
Mr. James Kromida, Commissioner  
Mr. Joseph Lalla, Commissioner  
Mr. Pietro Mercuri, Commissioner (by Teams)  
Ms. Mubeenah Mughal, Parent Commissioner (by Teams)  
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, Commissioner (by Teams)  
Mr. Tony Speranza, Parent Commissioner (by Teams)  
Mr. Daniel Tatone, Parent Commissioner (by Teams, joined at 6:52 P.M.)

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  
Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director Financial Services  
Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director Student Services  
Ms. Anna Sanalidro, Director Educational Services  
Ms. Ann Watson, Director, Human Resources  
Mr. Mike Cohen, Communications & Marketing Specialist  
Ms. B. Sellato, Consultant, 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;

Item 8.1 has been renamed The Brooding Soldier Monument.

Additional item 18.1, added by Ms. Corsi, entitled Online learning during extended school closures.

Additional item 18.2, added by Mr. M. Benvolato, entitled Notice of motion for committee for relaunch of EMSB.

Additional item 18.3, added by Mr. M. Benvolato, entitled Purchase of Air Purifiers (In-Camera).

Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 20-12-16-1

2.	<p><u>Question Period</u></p> <p>Mr. Ortona, responded to questions posed by Serena Caplette, regarding student-teacher ratio at high school levels, teacher’s cuts and class sizes at Lauren Hill Academy.</p> <p>Mr. Ortona, responded to questions posed by Stella Wen, regarding the schedule for the installation of air purifiers.</p> <p>Mr. Ortona, responded to questions posed Sandy Chalkoun, regarding live streaming classes at Royal West Academy.</p> <p>Mr. Ortona, responded to questions posed by Michel de Martigny, regarding air quality and testing of the air quality at Royal West Academy.</p>
3.	<p><u>Chair’s Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Air Purifiers.</li> <li>• The EMSB Press Conference announcing the Elementary School Registration for the 2021-2022 School Year.</li> <li>• The EMSB Pilot Project for online registrations, which starts Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 A.M. (<a href="http://www.emsb.qc.ca/reserve">www.emsb.qc.ca/reserve</a>).</li> <li>• A Virtual Town Hall with parents and stakeholders will be scheduled in January, in order to have the transformational changes explained to everyone. A date will be provided in the near future.</li> </ul>
4.	<p><u>Director General’s Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressed the changes to the School Calendar, directives by the government which were announced on December 17, 2020, due to the pandemic.</li> <li>• Discussed the ministry directives for online learning regarding Elementary students.</li> <li>• Dispatched devices for students in need.</li> <li>• Nutritional Support for 200 families in need will be provided throughout the confinement period. Campaign against poverty measure money will be used to cover the cost of meals.</li> <li>• Reporting of Covid cases.</li> <li>• Expression of thanks to all EMSB employees.</li> <li>• Confirmation of appointment of High School Sector Director Nathalie Lacroix-Maillette.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Mr. Cannavino left the meeting temporarily.</p>
5.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes:</u></p> <p>5.1 <u>Adoption of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting Held on January 28, 2020</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on January 28, 2020, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 9-0-4, Adopted  (Mr. M. Bentrovato, Ms. S. De Vito, Mr. J. Ortona, and Mr. M. Pietrangelo Abstained. Mr. A. Cannavino was not present for the vote)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #20-12-16-5.1</u></p>

5.2 Adoption of the Minutes of the Special Board Meetings Held on June 2, 2020, July 8, 2020, September 15, 2020, November 18, 2020, November 27, 2020 and December 2, 2020

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. FABIAN AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meetings held on June 2, 2020, July 8, 2020, September 15, 2020, November 18, 2020, November 27, 2020 and December 2, 2020 be approved as presented.

Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted  
(Mr. A. Cannavino was not present for the vote)

Resolution #20-12-16-5.2

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Mr. Cannavino returned to the meeting

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5.3 Adoption of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting Held on November 4, 2020

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. E. ISRAEL AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on November 4, 2020, be approved as presented.

Vote: 12-0-2, Adopted  
(Mr. M. Bentrovato and Mr. J. Ortona Abstained)

Resolution #20-12-16-5.3

5.4 Adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Held on November 11, 2020

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 11, 2020, be approved as presented.

Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-5.4

6. Business Arising Out of Minutes

6.1 Webcast of Special Meetings of the EMSB Council of Commissioners

**WHEREAS** it is in the interest of the Council of Commissioners to be as transparent as possible;

**WHEREAS** the public is currently denied the privilege of viewing special meetings of the Council of Commissioners;

**WHEREAS** there have been requests for special meetings to be webcast similar to regular meetings of the Council of Commissioners;

IT IS MOVED BY MR. J. LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT special meetings of the Council of Commissioners of the English Montreal School Board be webcast effective with the next special meeting.

Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-6.1

6.2 Mental Health Services at the EMSB

Information item presented by Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director of Student Services.

6.3 EMSB History Resource Development Committee Update

Information item presented by Ms. Anna Sanalidro, Director of Educational Services.

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Mr. Tatone joined the meeting at 6:52 P.M.

7.

In Memoriam

7.1 Tribute to the Late Dr. Horace Goddard – Former Director of Community Services

**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;

**WHEREAS** the late Dr. Horace Goddard had served the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal (PSBGM) and the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) until his retirement on December 31, 2012;

**WHEREAS** during the course of his career he served as Teacher, Principal, Coordinator of Personnel Services, Director of Student and Community Services and Director of Community Services;

**WHEREAS** Dr. Goddard was a loyal and dedicated employee who served both the PSBGM and the EMSB with integrity and dignity;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Board note with regret the passing of former employee Dr. Horace Goddard whose contributions helped develop the PSBGM, the EMSB and the communities in which he served.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-7.1

7.2 Tribute for December 2020

**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:

Waguih Tabet, Retired Principal, L.I.N.K.S. High School  
Wendy Brown, School Secretary, Royal Vale

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

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-7.2

8.	<p><u>Commissioners' Report</u></p> <p>8.1 <u>The Brooding Soldier Monument</u></p> <p>Information Item presented by Mr. A. Cannavino.</p>
9.	<p><u>Committee Reports</u></p> <p>1. Governance and Ethics Committee, presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. J. Feldman.</p> <p>First meeting was held on November 25, 2020. The Committee oversaw the election of commissioners to other committees. Mr. Feldman congratulated all the elected members of the various committees.</p> <p>2. Human Resources Committee, presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. J. Lalla.</p> <p>First meeting held on Dec 9, 2020. The committee briefly examined the mandate contained in the Education Act, and the mandate contained in By-law No. 11, which is much more detailed. At its next meeting, the committee will prioritize its items. A document “The selection and promotion process to the position of principal or centre director” was deposited and will be examined more closely at the next meeting, as the selection criteria for principals is specified in the Education Act.</p> <p>A comprehensive list of grievances from the unions dating back to 2016-2017 was provided by the Director.</p> <p>According to Bill 15, School Boards have an obligation to ensure a strict control on the number of employees hired by the Board and to also respect the baseline remunerated hours set by the Education ministry based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of paid employees</li> <li>• Distribution of employees per category of employment</li> <li>• Any other information relevant to the number of employees</li> </ul> <p>Lastly, the Director informed the committee of some priorities of the Human Resources Department for this year.</p> <p>3. ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services) presented by Ms. M. Mughal.</p> <p>There has been no meeting to date, the next meeting is January 19, 2021.</p> <p>4. CGTSIM (Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l’île de Montréal) presented by Mr. A. Cannavino.</p> <p>The first meeting was held virtually on December 10, 2020. Frank DiBello of the LBP School Board is continuing as the chair of this committee. The following was reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly Budget</li> <li>• Annual Tax to be collected</li> <li>• Système d’achat coopératif</li> <li>• Le Régime de gestion des risques</li> <li>• Sale for unpaid taxes sales postponed</li> </ul> <p>The next meeting of the CGTSIM will be held on February 11, 2021 at 6:30 P.M.</p>

5. EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee) presented by Mr. J. Lalla.

#### MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2020

The implications of COVID-19 in education

EMSAC members all agreed that going back to school is a good thing. The students shared that while it was great to see their friends and classmates again, they had a few concerns. Students are worried about cross contamination between other school levels that cohabitate with them. They are also concerned about the mental health implications that having schools be taught 50% in person and 50% online as this causes a great amount of stress and anxiety and it further isolates students from their peers, leading to loneliness and lack of motivation. Normal school routines become more complicated. The loss of Extra-Curricular Activities and Sports significantly affects our students.

Bill 40 Update

There was a short review of Bill 40, especially for new members.

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#### MEETING OF NOVEMBER 5, 2020

Mike Cohen made a presentation on marketing and communications at the school board and answered student's questions

Feedback from EMSAC members regarding the implications of COVID-19 in education:

- Most students who responded to the survey prefer to learn in person and feel that in-person learning is positive for a student's mental health.
- Most students do not like the 50/50 split. However, they are glad that at least they can see some of their classmates some of the time.
- Most students who responded are comfortable wearing masks in class.
- They miss the social aspect of school.
- They feel that they are missing the high school experience.
- Motion: EMSAC believes that school activities are important for school morale.
- Motion: EMSAC believes that the amount of work given online needs to be proportional to the time spent in class. Some students felt that have more work online than usual, and are somewhat overwhelmed.
- Motion: EMSAC believes that teachers should be aware that there are more difficulties such as stress, anxiety and confusion during these times.

Bill 40 Update Mr. Lalla

- Mr. Lalla gave a historical chronology of the main events concerning Bill 40 and answered student's questions.

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#### MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 2020

Discussion on Systemic Racism and its implication in education

Following a power-point presentation, there was a most interesting discussion on this topic, followed by two motions:

- Motion: EMSAC recommends that that education on systemic racism be incorporated into the high school curriculum like sex education, and have interventions in classes of cycle 3 elementary in order to introduce the idea to young students.

- Motion: EMSAC recommends that schools be more inclusive in learning situations ex: Using Racialized Names, Literature by minority authors, learning materials (Skin Palette crayons, inclusive toys, children’s stories.)

Discussion on Student Life, continued from previous meetings. Students shared some ideas to have more activities and interaction in their schools, such as:

- In-person meetings of the student council instead of online (create same bubble).
- Virtual contests.
- Classroom door decoration.
- End-of-term drawing for raffle prizes.

NOTE: EMSAC previously took a position against Bill 40 and against Bill 21.

6. EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents’ Committee) presented by Mr. D. Tatone.

The last meeting was held on December 3, 2020. The parents were very pleased to hear from the Director General. They had an extended question and answer period. The majority of the questions revolved around the air purifiers. The subcommittee for marketing and communications are tasked with the implementation of a virtual conference due to the pandemic. The addition of a social media page that parents can use. Facebook.com/emsbparents, where parents can be kept up to date with the proceedings of the EMSB parents committee. A subcommittee was formed regarding the online registration process. West end school parents were concerned regarding long waits for registration. Discussions around virtual parent teacher meetings which for the most part went very well. The next meeting will be held on January 14, 2021.

7. QESBA (Quebec English School Boards Association) presented by Mr. J. Ortona.

The case on the Bill 40 challenge has been set before the Quebec Superior court. It will be heard in front of Justice Sylvain Lussier. The case is scheduled to be heard from April 14, 2021 to April 27, 2021. QESBA would like to congratulate all commissioners who have been declared elected following the postponement of the School Board Elections. QESBA looks forward to working with you in the coming years. To the commissioners who have decided not to run again, QESBA thanks you for your commitment and dedication through the years to English Public Education in Quebec. QESBA has developed 3 online seminars for new councils, one was held at the end of November, for Chair’s, Vice-Chairs, DG’s and ADG’s. One was held at the beginning of December for all commissioners and I am proud to say that 14 of the 15 Commissioners participated in that session with one who had justifiable regrets as to why they could not attend. A 3<sup>rd</sup> one will be held in January, once the details have been finalized we will send the official material to all the commissioners.

10. Expression of Thanks to the Assistant Director General, Evelyne Alfonsi

**WHEREAS** pursuant to resolution # 20-08-12-4.2, Ms. Evelyne Alfonsi was appointed Interim Director General;

**WHEREAS** she served in this leadership function for over three months while continuing to perform her duties as Assistant Director General, Education;

**IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT** there be recorded in the Minutes of the Proceedings of this Board, the Commissioners’ sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Evelyne Alfonsi for having served as Interim Director General, and that these thanks be conveyed to her.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-10

11.	<p><u>Expression of Thanks to the Sector Director, Pela Nickoletopoulos</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> pursuant to resolution # 20-11-18-4.2, Ms. Pela Nickoletopoulos was appointed Interim Director General;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> she served in this leadership function while continuing to perform her duties as Sector Director, Elementary;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT there be recorded in the Minutes of the Proceedings of this Board, the Commissioners’ sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Pela Nickoletopoulos for having served as Interim Director General, and that these thanks be conveyed to her.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #20-12-16-11</u></p>
12.	<p><u>Budget Building Process for 2021-2022 - For Consultation</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> as per Section 193.3 of the <i>Education Act</i> the Resource Allocation Committee must set up a consultation process with a view to establishing objectives and principles governing the annual allocation of revenues in accordance with section 275;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> as per Section 193.5 of the <i>Education Act</i> 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);</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> Section 275 of the <i>Education Act</i> states that taking into account the recommendations of the CMAC/RAC, the school board shall establish objectives and principles governing the allocation of its revenues;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> in conformity with Sections 275 and 193.3 of the <i>Education Act</i>, a document entitled Budget Building Process for 2021-2022 has been created;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> Appendix A of the document describes the Objectives, Guiding Principles, Criteria and related Orientations proposed for 2021-2022;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the CMAC/RAC and the Directors’ Committee have reviewed and endorsed this document;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE/RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE THAT:</p> <p>The document entitled Budget Building Process for 2021-2022 be approved and forwarded to the school and centre governing boards and the EMSB Parents’ Committee for purposes of consultation as per Section 275 of the <i>Education Act</i>, as outlined in the documentation submitted at this meeting;</p> <p>The document entitled Budget Building Process for 2021-2022 be also forwarded to ACSES, EMSAC, and CMAC for feedback, as outlined in the documentation submitted at this meeting;</p>



	<p>The results of the consultation be returned to the Director of Financial Services, Ms. Livia Nassivera, no later than February 19, 2021.</p> <p>Vote: 8-2-5, Adopted</p> <p>(Mr. J. Kromida, and Mr. J. Lalla voted against. Ms. S. De Vito, Ms. M. Mughal, Mr. M. Pietrangelo, Mr. T. Speranza, and Mr. D. Tatone abstained)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #20-12-16-12</u></p>
13.	<p><u>School and Central Rollovers from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> as per Section 96.24 of the <i>Education Act</i> 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;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> as per Section 193.4 of the <i>Education Act</i> 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;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> as per Section 193.5 of the <i>Education Act</i> 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);</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> 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;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. FABIAN 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.</p> <p>A Motion to table this item was brought forward by Mr. J. Lalla.</p> <p>Vote: 9-2-4, Adopted, motion tabled. (Mr. J. Feldman and Mr. J. Ortona, voted against. Ms. M. Corsi, Mr. J. Fabian, Mr. P. Mercuri and Mr. D. Tatone Abstained)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #20-12-16-13</u></p>
14.	<p><u>2019-2020 Annual Report</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> Section 220 of the <i>Education Act</i> states that every school board shall prepare an Annual Report giving its community an account of the results obtained with regard to the goals and measurable objectives set out in the Commitment-to-success Plan with the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ);</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Annual Report includes the EMSB Commitment-to-success report, the financial statements, service contracts (Bill 15) and Staffing Report (Bill 15);</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Youth Sector Enrolment Report will be inserted to the Annual Report and presented on January 14, 2021;</p>

	<p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Board shall send a copy of the report to the MEQ by December 31, 2020, as per the <i>Education Act</i>;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. FABIAN, AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the 2019-2020 English Montreal School Board Annual Report, including the EMSB Commitment-to-success Plan report, the financial statements, the service contracts (Bill 15) and Staffing Report (Bill 15), be approved and that a formal presentation of this document be given on January 14, 2021.</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of the report be sent to the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ) by December 31, 2020.</p> <p>IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Youth Sector Enrolment Report be inserted to the Annual Report, presented on January 14, 2021 and sent to the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ) on January 15, 2021.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #20-12-16-14</u></p>
15.	<p><u>Director General Search Process</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> Mr. Russell Copeman was appointed Interim Director General by Resolution # 20-11-27-4 on November 27, 2020, until the appointment of a permanent Director General for the English Montreal School Board (EMSB);</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Council of Commissioners requests to put in place a Search Process Ad-Hoc Committee to assist in the appointment of a Director General;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. J. KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the following members be nominated to the Search Process Ad-Hoc Committee to complete the hiring of a Director General as well as the Interim Director General, Russell Copeman:</p> <p>Joe Ortona  Agostino Cannavino  Maria Corsi  Joseph Lalla  Mubeenah Mughal  Tony Speranza  Russell Copeman</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution #20-12-16-15</u></p>
16.	<p><u>Remuneration of Commissioners 2020-2021</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> Order-in-Council #1100-2020, dated October 21, 2020, establishes the new parameters for purposes of calculating the maximum global remuneration of school board commissioners for the 2020-2021 school year;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> said remuneration parameters include a component determined by the annual number of full-time equivalent Youth, Adult, and Vocational sector students;</p>

**WHEREAS** the total maximum global remuneration of school board commissioners for 2020-2021 is \$184,715, with the Board determining the allocation of this envelope;

**WHEREAS** pursuant to resolution #20-06-10-5, adopted by the Board on June 10, 2020, an amount \$58,693 has already been distributed to commissioners for the period of July 1 to November 1, 2020;

**WHEREAS** remuneration for governance committee memberships is based on a points system, with the value per point being established at \$945;

IT WAS MOVED BY J. FABIAN AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the annual remuneration to EMSB Commissioners be as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting, reduced by the amount of \$58,693 already distributed for the period of July 1 to November 1, 2020 as per resolution #20-06-10-5, adopted by the Board on June 10, 2020.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT authorization be given to Financial Services to take the appropriate action necessary to reflect the total remuneration for 2020-2021 in the annual budget.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-16

17. Affirmation of February 2021 as Black History Month

**WHEREAS** many Canadians and Quebecers of African heritage toiled, and died in obscurity, never achieving the recognition those individuals deserved, and yet paved the way for future generations to succeed;

**WHEREAS**, observance of Black History Month is an opportunity for our community and our schools to reflect on, commemorate and celebrate the contributions of African Canadians and Quebecers from all walks of life throughout our history;

**WHEREAS** observance of Black History Month calls on the community to honour the contribution of pioneers who helped to ensure our legacy of Civil Rights and Freedoms;

**WHEREAS**, this observance also permits us to reiterate our shared values as well to re-examine and re-assert our contemporary role in preserving the Civil Rights of all citizens;

**WHEREAS**, the English Montreal School Board recognizes Black History Month as an occasion for each of its schools to offer students an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all people; to develop pride in his or her own identity and heritage; and to understand, respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others;

**WHEREAS**, corresponding school activities held during this month encourage students to continue to strive for the best education as a means to fulfill their own potential;

**WHEREAS**, not only during the month of February, but throughout the school year, it is important to recognize both disparities and opportunities in working towards greater equity in our schools, in the community and throughout the education system;

IT IS MOVED BY MR. J. FELDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board designate February 2021 as Black History Month, observed in all of its schools and centres.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution #20-12-16-17

