

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Laurence Patterson Room, 6000 Fielding Avenue.

Commissioners Present

Me Joe Ortona, Chair
Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Vice-Chair
Ms. Maria Corsi, Parent Commissioner
Ms. Sophie De Vito, Commissioner – via TEAMS
Mr. Jamie Fabian, Commissioner – via TEAMS
Ms. Rosemarie Federico, Parent Commissioner
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner
Ms. Ellie Israel, Commissioner
Mr. James Kromida, Commissioner – via TEAMS
Mr. Joseph Lalla, Commissioner
Mr. Pietro Mercuri, Commissioner
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, Commissioner
Mr. Tony Speranza, Parent Commissioner
Mr. Daniel Tatone, Parent Commissioner

Commissioners Not Present

Mr. Mario Benvolante, Commissioner (Regrets)

Administrators Present:

Mr. Nicholas Katalifos, Director General
Ms. Pelagia Nickoletopoulos, Assistant Director General, Education
Me Jack Chadirdjian, Assistant Director General, Administration
Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General

Mr. Jimmy Giannacopoulos, Sector Director
Ms. Darlene Kehyayan, Assistant Director, Human Resources
Ms. Nathalie Lacroix-Maillette, Sector Director
Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director, Financial Services
Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director, Student Services
Me Magdalena Sokol, Director, Legal Services
Ms. Angela Spagnolo, Sector Director, AEVS
Mr. Charalambos Thomas, Director, Information Technology
Ms. Ann Watson, Director, Human Resources
Mr. Mike Cohen, Manager, Marketing & Communications
Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretariat General

	<p>The Chair announced to take a moment of silence to honor some of the members of the EMSB family who tragically passed away recently. On January 14th, Vincent Pileggi, a 13-year-old student from Philip E. Layton passed away. On February 1st, we also lost a grade 7 student from Laurier Macdonald High School, Kayla Campilii. The Chair also mentioned that on February 8, a tragic event happened in a Laval daycare where two children passed away. He sends his heartfelt condolences to all the families.</p>
1.	<p><u>Land Acknowledgement</u></p> <p>The Chair acknowledged that the English Montreal School Board is located on the traditional ancestral and unceded territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka. We are grateful to live, learn, and work in Tiohtià:ke which has long been a site of meeting and exchange for many First Nations and is currently home to diverse groups of indigenous and other peoples. As a School Board, it is important that we acknowledge the historic and ongoing role of educational institutions in perpetuating injustices against indigenous communities. We are committed to educating staff and students about the true history and current realities of the indigenous peoples of what we now call Canada. Celebrating the cultures contributions and knowledge of the many First Nations Inuit and Métis communities, listening to and amplifying indigenous voices and partnering with local indigenous community members. We offer this acknowledgement as a first step and public commitment to our ongoing process towards reconciliation and justice for indigenous peoples and communities.</p>
2.	<p><u>Nomination of Victoria Rawski as Student of the Month</u></p> <p>In recognition of her excellence in athletics and academics as well as her dedication to the community, Victoria Rawski has been chosen as Student of the Month for February. Victoria, a Grade 6 student at Honoré Mercier Elementary School in St. Leonard, was recently chosen to represent Canada at the International Mundialito Tournament, which will take place under the auspices of FIFA from April 1 to April 9 in Spain. Off the field, Victoria is an honours student and plans on attending Vincent Massey Collegiate for high school. Voted the most “caring” student in her class, her empathy is on full display with her work in the community. In part due to her Ukrainian heritage, last year, she began to collect soccer balls for local Ukrainian refugees. With this ongoing project, her goal is to share a smile through sport, despite the languages barrier and difficulties of starting a new life in a foreign country. Congratulations to Victoria on her accomplishments.</p>
3.	<p><u>Approval of Agenda</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MS. ROSEMARIE FEDERICO AND RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved with the removal of item 15 entitled <i>Real Estate Rental Rates for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024</i>.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-02-28-3</u></p>
4.	<p><u>In Camera</u></p> <p><u>4.1 Motion to Move In Camera</u></p> <p>On a motion by Mr. Pietro Mercuri the meeting went In Camera at 7:17 p.m.</p> <p>The meeting returned from the In Camera session at 7:41 p.m.</p>

5.

Adoption of Resolution(s) from In Camera

4.2.1 Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to review a decision – Ref. R4-0228 – Nomination of Chair

WHEREAS a parent complaint was submitted for the reconsideration of a decision on February 6, 2023;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 7 of EMSB By-Law no. 8 on Complaint Examination Procedure, an Ad Hoc Committee must be established to examine the Complaint;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 7.3 (b) of By-Law no. 8 on Complaint Examination Procedure the Chair of this Ad Hoc Committee must be a Parent Commissioner;

The Council of Commissioners proceeded with the nomination of Chair:

Mr. Pietro Mercuri nominated Ms. Maria Corsi, who accepted the nomination;

Mr. Daniel Tatone nominated Mr. Tony Speranza, who declined the nomination;

There were no other nominations or self-nominations;

On a motion by Mr. Mario Pietrangelo the nominations ceased, all were in favor.

WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT there be created an Ad Hoc Committee to review a decision regarding a parent complaint dated February 6, 2023, Ref. R4-0228;

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in accordance with section 7.3 (b) of By-Law no. 8 on Complaint Examination Procedure, the appointed Chair of this Ad Hoc Committee is Ms. Maria Corsi;

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Chair of this Committee shall remit a final report and recommendations to the Council of Commissioners within the best delay after the committee meets;

IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the minutes or notes of the meetings that will be taken by the Members of the Ad Hoc Committee are confidential and to be distributed only to the Members of Council, in order to render a final decision.

Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 23-02-28-4.2.1

4.2.2 Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to review a decision – Ref. R4-0228 – Nomination of Members

WHEREAS a parent complaint was submitted for the reconsideration of a decision on February 6, 2023;

WHEREAS in accordance with section 7 of EMSB By-Law no. 8 on Complaint Examination Procedure, an Ad Hoc Committee must be established to examine the Complaint;

WHEREAS several members of the Council of Commissioners have agreed to sit on the aforementioned Committee;

The Council of Commissioners proceeded with the nomination of Members:

Mr. Daniel Tatone nominated Mr. Tony Speranza, who accepted the nomination;

	<p>Ms. Maria Corsi nominated Mr. Pietro Mercuri, who accepted the nomination;</p> <p>There were no other nominations or self-nominations;</p> <p>On a motion by Ms. Rosemarie Federico the nominations ceased, all were in favor.</p> <p>WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT there be created an Ad Hoc Committee to review a decision regarding a parent complaint dated February 6, 2023, Ref. R4-0228;</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in accordance with section 7.3 (b) of By-Law no. 8 on Complaint Examination Procedure, this Ad Hoc Committee be composed of three (3) of the following members of the Council of Commissioners:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Maria Corsi, Chair Pietro Mercuri Tony Speranza</p> <p>IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee shall remit its final report and recommendations to the Council of Commissioners within the best delays after they meet;</p> <p>IT WAS STILL FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the minutes or notes of the meetings that will be taken by the Members of the Ad Hoc Committee are confidential and to be distributed only to the Members of Council, in order to render a final decision.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-02-28-4.2.2</u></p>
6.	<p><u>Question Period</u></p> <p>Questions from Mr. Chris Eustace were read and addressed by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona, regarding the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The protocol concerning any act of racism in schools • By-Laws under Trusteeship
7.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes</u></p> <p><u>7.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 24, 2023</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 24, 2023, be approved with a correction to item 2.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-02-28-7.1</u></p>
8.	<p><u>Business Arising Out of Minutes</u></p> <p>Discussion on the removal of an item on the agenda from the January 24th, Regular Board meeting. Mr. Cannavino brought forward how it is an undemocratic operation of Council to remove an item from the agenda before it is even discussed, followed by interventions on that subject from Mr. Lalla, Mr. Fabian, Mr. Kromida, Mr. Feldman, Mr. Mercuri and the Chair, Mr. Ortona.</p>
9.	<p><u>In Memoriam</u></p> <p><u>9.1 Tribute for February 2023</u></p> <p>WHEREAS the Board values the contribution made by its employees;</p>

	<p>WHEREAS the Board wishes to take official cognizance of the passing of any member of its large family of employees;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOE ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Board note with regret the passing of:</p> <p>George Gerald Auchinleck, Retired Director of Instructional Services, PSBGM</p> <p>and that the expression of sympathy be sent to the bereaved family.</p> <p>Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-02-28-9.1</u></p>
10.	<p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>Presented by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 27th, the EMSB marked International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Many events were held in our schools including a virtual panel moderated by Mark Bergman, who is the grandchild of Holocaust survivors; • In the Month of February, several events took place across our schools acknowledging, recognizing and celebrating Black History Month, such as class workshops, special lessons, etc; • February 13th to the 17th was Hooked on Schools Week. The EMSB took the opportunity to pay tribute to all people who make a difference in education and in the lives of children and to recognize the role they play in motivating students. We salute them for their commitment to education; • The EMSB is grateful to have received a special grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal for this academic year to enhance the level of Holocaust Education in our schools. The EMSB thanks CBC for featuring some of the work that was done in Montreal and across Canada. As a result of this grant, thousands of EMSB students have heard from a number of guest speakers including Holocaust survivors and had the opportunity to visit the Holocaust Museum of Montreal; • Victoria Rawski, student from Honoré Mercier, was presented with Student of the Month alongside Commissioners, Ms. Maria Corsi and Mr. Mario Pietrangelo; • Senator Tony Loffreda visited Laurier Macdonald High School, where he spoke about his educational experience having attended two public schools in the East-End and also spoke about his success with the students. This event showcased our new project of promoting our East-End schools, to encourage parents in the area to choose public education, to choose the EMSB. Senator Loffreda who had a stellar professional career is one of many success stories that come from EMSB schools or former EMSB schools.
11.	<p><u>Director General's Report</u></p> <p>Presented by the Director General, Mr. Nicholas Katalifos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A special thanks to Senator Tony Loffreda for his inspirational visit. It was nice to hear about his history, career path and everything that he has accomplished. Also, a special thanks to the Communications Department for organizing this event; • March is Nutrition Month and the national theme for this year's campaign is "What you eat. Good for you, good for the planet." The aim is to adopt healthy eating habits that nourish the body and preserve the environment. On March 23rd, celebrity chef Stefano Faita will speak at his former Elementary School, John Caboto Academy; • February was Black History Month, the EMSB marked this month with a wide array of activities across its network. Please visit our website to view all that has been done; • The Quebec Board of Black Educators will now be housed in Marymount Academy International. The EMSB is proud to have re-established a long-standing partnership with this organization and everything it stands for;

- At Royal West Academy, their Student Life Association and Spiritual Community Animator organized a Green Space Campaign from January 24th to the 31st. During this time the school community joined together for a reflection for the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque attack and action against Islamophobia;
- The Director General attended the Hooked on Schools launch at Beurling Academy in Verdun and an address to the Chamber of Commerce of Montreal by Education Minister, Bernard Drainville. The spokesperson was, once again, NFL player and McGill University Medical School graduate, Laurent Duvernay-Tardiff.
- On February 17th, as part of the EMSB Respect Campaign, International Random Acts of Kindness Day and Pink Shirt Day were marked and celebrated. Please visit our website to view the many special activities that took place for this event;
- Several of our students from Royal West Academy accompanied 30 students from Westmount High School, LaurenHill Academy, Marymount Academy International, and MIND who recently arrived from Ukraine. Together the staff and students walked over 15,000 steps as they explored Downtown, Chinatown, Old Montreal, and the Port. Tim Horton's donuts and a Chinese buffet fed their stomachs, while ice skating. This activity gave students the opportunity to share stories in their native language. A special thanks to all schools for organizing such a wonderful event;
- The HOPS Program has been modified from in person to virtual. It is a long-standing program that has benefited many students over the years. On February 21st, the CHUM Hospital allowed some HOPS students to enter the hospital. Dr. Moishe Liberman, thoracic surgeon and his team of medical engineers met with the students and they were able to learn about his research on new minimally invasive endoscopic techniques and diagnosis, treatment staging and palliation of thoracic cancers. Students who attended this unique experience were from Vincent Massey Collegiate, Laurier Macdonald High School and Marymount Academy International;
- Some Secondary 5 students from LaurenHill Academy visited the Rosemount Technology Centre with their physical education teacher Shaun Simon. Over the course of 4 weeks, 64 students had the opportunity to work alongside adult cabinet making students to create their very own fishing tip-ups. These devices allow an angler to ice fish using multiple baited lines at the same time. Cabinet making teacher, Eliane Kinsley collaborated with Shaun to create a model using wood. While there the students toured the main campus to explore the numerous vocational programs offered.
- Les Olympiades québécoises des métiers et des technologies, is the largest event dedicated to vocational and technical training in Quebec. Over the period of several days, finalists from all regions of the province demonstrated their knowledge and expertise in several disciplines such as welding, fitting, automobile mechanics, cabinet making, to name a few. The EMSB had several winners. On February 15th, the welding and fitting competition took place at l'École des métiers de la construction de Montréal, where there was a winner from the Laurier Macdonald Centre. On February 17th, the automobile mechanics competition took place at l'École des métiers de l'équipement motorisé de Montréal, where this time the Laurier Macdonald Centre had two winners. Congratulations to everyone who participated and to all our winners. The work that is being done in our Vocational Centres is exceptional.

12.

Committee Reports

12.1 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services)

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Rosemarie Federico:

- There was no report since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2023.

12.2 Transportation and Safety Advisory Committee

Item presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Pietro Mercuri:

- Discussions took place about the ongoing request for STM bus services for students in Rivière-des-Prairies going to Rosemount High School. It was determined that there is a critical mass of students who could benefit from this service. The Director of the Transportation Department at the Board informed the committee that the STM cannot guarantee this service for the next academic year. However, they will study the feasibility of this particular service and it will be brought back for the next year. It will be discussed again at the next meeting in April.

12.3 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee)

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Mr. Daniel Tatone:

- This year the Parent Conference Committee has decided to change the format of the Parent Conference and is planning a weeklong celebration on various topics. The event will have an in person/hybrid keynote on May 28th. A series of lunch and learn workshops will be held between May 28th and June 4th. The sessions will be recorded and available afterwards;
- ACSES sent a letter to the Parents Committee Chair requesting support for a motion that training sessions on anti-bullying be mandatory and be conducted yearly to all staff.

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Maria Corsi:

- The Parents Committee created a sub-committee on EMSBPC Social Media Marketing of the Parents Committee itself. It was discussed to reach out to our stakeholders, parents who would love to share their enrollment experience and how they made public education a choice for their family. The main thought is to celebrate parents who chose local English public schools and why they love them;
- The Parents Committee is being consulted on the Budget Building Process and this year it was decided to break it up into two parts. In February, the committee reviewed and agreed to the guiding principles and will provide input on the budget priorities at the March meeting;
- The Parents Committee discussed at length a statement on Bill 96 under the topic of concern for the future of our children in Quebec. The Executive Committee is currently drafting a statement and will circulate it to members for approval at the March meeting;
- Finally, the Parents Committee was also consulted on the school calendar for 2023-2024, in which the committee accepted with the recommendations to consider aligning the March Break with other French service centres and English School Boards as it facilitates families to receive outside daycare services that are offered during this time. Also recommended that a ped day be put on November 1st, after Halloween, that there be no ped days directly following a Holiday Break, that ped days not always fall on Mondays and Fridays and not to have half ped days at the school level, mostly at the High School level.

12.4 Governance and Ethics Committee

Item presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Julien Feldman:

- There was no report since the last meeting.

12.5 Audit Committee

Item presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. James Kromida:

- The committee reviewed the internal control issues that were found by the auditors. The internal auditors gave the committee an update with the administration as to what situations were found, what the consequences are, what are we planning to do about it and how will they be resolved. There is good progress on all issues.

12.6 Human Resources Committee

Item presented by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, in the absence of the Chair:

- There was no report since the last meeting.

12.7 CGTSIM (Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'île de Montréal)

Item presented by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Alternate Member on the Committee:

- The maximum short-term borrowings were reviewed and are in line with the parameters established by the government;
- Budget and tax projections were reviewed;
- The sub-committee is continuing to review existing Policies and By-Laws and proposed new ones to address newer realities in the workplace. The committee adopted the policy addressing work from home and code of ethics guidelines;
- The committee received the ranking of Elementary and Secondary Schools based on under privilege index and current year registration. The school rankings will be posted on the committee's website;
- A new poverty map should be produced by the end of the year;
- Following a public tendering process, the committee awarded contracts for printing and mailing of the 2023 tax notices. The supplier contracts for lamps, cleaning and sanitary products, air purifiers, paper, trash bags and sports equipment were renewed;
- George Demos of the EMSB, Material Resources Department was named Secretary of the Selection Committee;
- The committee is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. An event will be organized to commemorate this milestone;

12.8 EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee)

Item presented by the Observer, Mr. Joseph Lalla:

- Members began discussing the budget building process in which they are being consulted on. Members were shown how the EMSB and its schools and centres assemble the annual budget based on certain needs and priorities of the students and staff. It was also explained that depending on a weighted average of enrollment, each school is allocated certain funds to adequately meet the needs of staff such as Professionals and Vice-Principals. After a lengthy discussion the item was tabled to the next meeting in March.

12.9 QESBA (Quebec English School Boards Association)

Item presented by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona, Member on the QESBA:

- Information on the Spring Conference was sent out. It will be taking place on May 17th and 18th. Participation is encouraged in order to have a great representation by the EMSB;
- A decision on Bill 40 has still not been rendered.

13.

Commissioners' Report

Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. Pietro Mercuri:

- Leonardo DaVinci Academy held LDVA's Got Talent Show on February 24th. During the show students were able to showcase their many talents which ranged from instrumental music, dancing and singing;
- Michelangelo International Elementary School held their Governing Board meeting on February 9th. At the meeting there were 6 students who make up the Michelangelo's Student Council. Each student represents each grade from Grade 1 through 6. They explained that their role is to represent the student body. They presented a request to have three dress down days to raise funds for new soccer nets for the school. The Governing Board approved their proposal;

- Commissioner, Mr. Pietro Mercuri presented a **Notice of Motion** for the March 28th, Regular Board meeting, which should read “Resolution to Honor EMSB Parent Tina Oppong – One of the CBC’s Black Changemakers of 2023”. A draft resolution was presented to the Secretary General.

Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. Daniel Tatone:

- Mr. Tatone explained how he had the opportunity to work alongside Ms. Oppong on several committees and expressed how she is extremely passionate in all of her endeavors;
- Mr. Tatone also explained that the President of the Quebec Board of Black Educators, Mr. Alix Adrien, has also been highlighted as CBC’s Black Changemaker. CBC Quebec is highlighting people from the provinces black communities who are giving back, inspiring others and helping to change our future. This started many years ago for Mr. Adrien as a Math teacher who inspired many students and contributed to many success stories. Mr. Adrien also advocated for black students both inside and outside of the classroom who were treated unfairly. As a Commissioner and Parent delegate, Mr. Tatone explained how he had the honor to meet Mr. Adrien. Mr. Tatone, as an advocate for diversity and equity and representation at the EMSB, is proud of the initiatives and partnership being led by Mr. Alix Adrien and QBBE and our administration. Mr. Tatone wishes to add the name of Alix Adrien to Mr. Mercuri’s notice of motion.

Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. James Kromida:

- Mr. Kromida commends all the teachers, professionals and everyone working in our education network for all their hard work, care and passion for the children.

Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. Agostino Cannavino:

- Congratulations to Mr. John Pevac and his team at the Rosemount Technology Centre who organized an intramural skills competition on February 9th. This even not only served to showcase the first class programs offered such as cabinet making, electro mechanics, computer graphics and many more but also to select the student representatives that will represent RTC at the upcoming regional and provincial competitions;
- Mr. Lino Buttino, Principal at Rosemount High School organized an outstanding event, part of many activities highlighting Black History Month throughout the EMSB where numerous distinguished guests addressed the students in the auditorium;
- Mr. Cannavino attended the Laurier Macdonald Career Centre open house where Ms. Borsellino and her team showcased the Centre and programs offered such as hairdressing, aesthetics and more. Our Centres offer great programs with state of the art technology that allows students to prepare for their future and encourage students to take a close look at the numerous possibilities that the EMSB offers;

Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. Joseph Lalla:

- As part of Le Mois du français at the EMSB, the Willingdon School choir, led by Director Nick Batzios, created a special jingle to serve as the campaign’s theme song. Students across the EMSB were challenged to put the theme of Être bilingue, c’est gagnant to music. The winning students from Willingdon also had the opportunity to perform their jingle at a recording studio. The jingle now serves as the EMSB on-hold message in 2023;
- The Royal West Academy Foundation was founded to raise the necessary funding for three capital improvement projects: the construction of a new gym, the enlargement of the library, and the renovation for the Performing Arts Center (opening Spring 2023). In 2007 the Foundation contributed approximately \$500,000 towards the construction of a new gymnasium. More recently the Foundation raised another \$500,000 towards the transformation of the school auditorium into a state-of-the art Performing Arts Centre, which is currently under construction. The Foundation has recently launched its newest fundraising project, *The Active Learning Classroom Fundraising Campaign*. Classrooms will be modernized with flexible seating to accommodate different learning styles, facilitate movement, collaboration, and creation. Funds raised will go towards creating spaces with flexible seating designed to further support our educators and

students. Flexible seating alters classroom dynamics and improves academic engagement, as follows:

- Facilitate individualized learning by acknowledging and accommodating students' unique learning styles;
- Create opportunities for collaboration and creation by encouraging movement among students and teacher;
- Strengthen relationships within the classroom between peers and teachers;
- Improve student exchanges during group work;
- Responding to the needs of different teaching subject or activities within the same classroom;
- Increase student motivation and engagement;
- Purchase sustainable furniture that meets the need for durability, long term use, and reduce waste, and certified designed to protect human health by reducing exposure to chemicals.

During the 2022-2023 school year, the objective of this pilot project is to raise \$80,000 to renovate 3 classrooms.

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Maria Corsi:

- On February 10th, the Chair assembly took place at Pierre de Coubertin Elementary School. Mr. Daniel Gill, a teacher from New Jersey attended the assembly virtually and told a story about his childhood. As a small child Daniel and his friend Archie were invited to another friends birthday party. When they both arrived at the birthday party, Archie was not welcomed into their friends home as he was told that there was no chair for him. When Mr. Gill became a teacher he made sure to always have an extra chair in his classroom as a symbol of acceptance, that all are welcome and that there will always be room in his classroom for anyone who would show up at his door. Following this story, Principal Ms. Ida Pisano unveiled a chair that students had decorated with messages of friendship, respect and acceptance and will serve as a visual reminder to the students that there is always room for someone new at the school. The same idea was done at Honoré Mercier Elementary School where Mr. Gill also told his story. Dante Elementary School will be the next school to hold the Chair assembly to continue spreading this important message among the student body in St-Leonard.

14. Draft Calendars (Teachers) for the Youth, Adult and Vocational Sectors for 2023-2024 – Following Consultation

WHEREAS the Human Resources Department has drafted the calendars (teachers) for the youth, adult and vocational sectors for 2023-2024;

WHEREAS the calendars (teachers) for the youth, adult and vocational sectors for 2023-2024 were sent out for the purposes of official consultation, following approval by the Council of Commissioners, to the following groups: *English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC), Central Management Advisory Committee - Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC), Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA) and Montréal Teachers Association (MTA)*;

WHEREAS the proposed calendar (teachers) for the youth sector for 2023-2024 was modified, as a result of the consultation, to reflect a new addendum indicating the collective agreement requirement for teachers' consultation regarding the placement of 2 pedagogical days for teachers;

WHEREAS the groups previously consulted: *English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC), Central Management Advisory Committee - Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC), Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA) and Montréal Teachers Association (MTA)* have been informed of the revised calendar (teachers) for the youth sector for 2023-2024;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOSEPH LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the revised calendars (teachers) for the youth, adult and vocational sectors for 2023-2024 be approved.

Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 23-02-28-14

15.	<u>Real Estate Rental Rates for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024</u> Item removed.
16.	<u>EMSB Draft Tele-work Guidelines</u> Item was presented by the Director of Human Resources, Ms. Ann Watson, for information.
17.	<u>Correspondence</u> <u>17.1 Résolution de l'Arrondissement de St-Léonard, Ville de Montréal, pour les Journées de la persévérance scolaire 2023</u> Item presented for information purposes.
18.	<u>Other Business</u> None.
19.	<u>Adjournment</u> IT WAS MOVED BY MR. AGOSTINO CANNAVINO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Vote: 14-0-0, Adopted <div style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-02-28-20</u></div>
	Signed in Montreal, _____ _____ Me Joe Ortona, Chair <div style="text-align: right;"> _____ Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General </div>