

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Board Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Library of St. Pius X Career Centre, 9955 Papineau Avenue, Montreal.

Commissioners Present

Me Joe Ortona, Chair  
Mr. Agostino Cannavino, Vice-Chair  
Mr. Mario Bentrovato, Commissioner – via TEAMS  
Ms. Maria Corsi, Parent Commissioner  
Ms. Sophie De Vito, Commissioner  
Mr. Jamie Fabian, Commissioner  
Ms. Rosemarie Federico, Parent Commissioner  
Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner  
Ms. Ellie Israel, Commissioner  
Mr. James Kromida, Commissioner  
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

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, Regional Director, West  
Ms. Nathalie Lacroix-Maillette, Regional Director, East  
Ms. Angela Spagnolo, Sector Director, AEVS  
Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director, Financial Services  
Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director, Student Services  
Ms. Anna Sanalidro, Director, Educational Services  
Me Magdalena Sokol, Director, Legal Services  
Mr. Bob Thomas, Director, Information technology Services  
Ms. Ann Watson, Director, Human Resources  
Mr. Mike Cohen, Manager, Marketing & Communications  
Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretariat General

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>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"> <li>➤ Logistics of Board meetings</li> <li>➤ Remuneration of Commissioners</li> </ul>
3.	<p><u>Nomination of Estela Lamigo as Student of the Month</u></p> <p>Estela is a mom and a wife who works full-time during the day and is a punctual evening culinary student at St. Pius X. She is cheerful, energetic and a dedicated student who provides a positive influence for her classmates . Estela excels and masters all topics and techniques which are taught to her. Over the past four months during the current service modules she has acquired speed and efficiency while always wanting to learn and experience more. Congratulations Estela!</p>
4.	<p><u>Approval of Agenda</u></p> <p>Mr. Joseph Lalla proposed to move items 15 to 18 to item 6 and after.</p> <p>Vote: 2-13-0, Defeated (Mr. A. Cannavino and Mr. J. Lalla voted in favor)</p> <p>Ms. Ellie Israel proposed to move item 13 to item 7b.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY ROSEMARIE FEDERICO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved, with item 13 entitled Mandatory Holocaust Education being moved to item 7b.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-4</u></p>
5.	<p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <p>Presented by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Several of our schools did a fantastic job raising money for the Terry Fox Foundation. We saw our schools being promoted on social media and the events, walking and running to raise these funds. Congratulations go out to all of the schools that were involved in this event;</li> </ul>

- September 30<sup>th</sup> was the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Many events were held throughout the EMSB to acknowledge truth and reconciliation and to remember the errors of the past and to find a pathway forward. Events were also held to teach students and make them aware of some of Canada's unfortunate history and past;
- The Chair met with Alejandra Zaga Mendez, the second opposition group critic for relations with English-speaking Quebecers, to discuss issues affecting the English-speaking community. The Chair also spoke to Ms. Mendez about the many children awaiting their certificates of eligibility, of which there were 450 across the province, an issue that is truly unfortunate, Ministry's great reluctance to issue certificates of eligibility to students on humanitarian grounds even when they have the documented evidence supporting that it is in the child's interest to be granted English eligibility. They also conversed in general about education, the state of our buildings and the funding received by the Government for our buildings, with regards to transportation, etc. Ms. Mendez was very receptive and suggested that any public statement and press release that is made by the EMSB or QESBA, that they are forwarded directly to the education critics and critics responsible for relations with English-speaking Quebecers so they can be informed. They also spoke briefly about the recently appealed Bill 40 and Bill 96. There were some issues regarding Bill 96 that they did not both agree on, however there were some issues that were acknowledged, that were problematic with regards to English language School Boards.
- The Chair put out an op-ed piece in the Montreal Gazette in the month of September asking the Government to work with the English School Boards and to focus on student success and not legal battles. Unfortunately, the Government didn't heed to this call and they decided to appeal all of the judgement of Bill 40 that was rendered;
- On the anniversary of 9/11, we remembered all those who lost their lives and the heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice on that terrible day. As we do every year, students across the youth sector, none of whom were born when 9/11 occurred, learned about 9/11 and honored the victims in their respective classrooms;
- Thanks to a generous donation from the employees of SAP Montreal, students from St. Gabriel School were given school supplies that they needed to begin the school year on the right foot. They were given bags containing lunch boxes, water bottles, reusable utensils, markers, pencils, 6 notebooks, etc;
- Throughout several of our EMSB schools, open houses are taking place. If anyone is interested in enrolling their children in our Elementary Schools or High Schools, it's a great opportunity. On our website, there is a whole section dedicated to open houses where all information regarding when and where the open houses will be taking place. If anyone is not available on any of the dates, parents and student will have the opportunity to visit schools by appointment. Appointments can be made by contacting the school directly;
- QESBA's Annual General Assembly will take place on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Ortona encouraged all Commissioners to attend either in person or virtually;
- The Government filed an appeal on the entire judgment of Bill 40. The decision of this appeal is very disappointing however it is part of the legal process, they have the right to exhaust an appeal process. Mr. Ortona maintains his confidence that there will be success in the hearing at the Court of Appeal of Quebec. Unfortunately, the Government did not heed to the Bill 40 decision and seems to want to go ahead with adopting Bill 23, and having it apply to the English sector as well. The QESBA is monitoring the situation very closely and will keep everyone informed as to any developments in that regard. If Bill 23 is adopted as is, it is clearly a violation, an infringement of our Section 23 rights and would be ready to go to court;
- QESBA put out several statements, one of which was expressing a concern with the way that the Government is trying to negotiate with QPAT. They are not respecting the local authorities ability to negotiate. The Government made a list of demands that they want our employees to give up and this is another centralization power that they want to exercise and we've let them know that what they are doing is not respecting Bill 37. A second statement was put out about the deploring situation, that very close to the September 30<sup>th</sup>, cutoff deadline, 450 children, hundreds of which are soon to be EMSB students, are sitting at home waiting for a certificate of eligibility across Quebec. It was stated that this situation is unacceptable and that any student registered after September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will not receive the funding by the Government of Quebec to provide them with the services they need, nevertheless we are expected and will provide them with all of the services. The Government should do its job to ensure that these certificates are processed in a timely manner.

6. Director General's Report

Presented by the Director General, Mr. Nicholas Katalifos:

- More than 2000 Secondary students will attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual English Montreal School Board Career Fair on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the St. Pius X Career Centre. Several on-air personalities from the media will be on hand to talk to students about careers and to serve as guest MC's from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The Education and Career Fair will be open to the community at large. This is a great opportunity for parents to attend with their children, Grades 9, 10 and 11, as they look towards post-secondary education options and a one-stop shopping experience. There is no charge and parking is free. The program will be coordinated by the Student Services and Adult Education and Vocational Services Departments of the EMSB. The main objective is to provide students with an in-dept exposure to the various educational opportunities available to them. All students will take part in a brief general information session in the St. Pius X auditorium. Students will then have the chance to visit the various exhibition information booths staffed by reps from the English Vocational Centres, Cegeps, Universities and some private Business Colleges. We look forward to this event and a big thank you to everyone working very hard to make it a success;
- Media Literacy Week is an annual event promoting digital media literacy across Canada. Take place each October, schools, libraries, museums and community groups organize events and activities throughout the week. Media Literacy Week takes place during the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>, and this year Digital Citizen Day is coming back on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Organizers invite schools to join them to encourage everyone in Canada to spread positivity online;
- The EMSB Marketing and Communications Department will be represented at the Annual Canadian Association of Communicators in Education. The conference is taking place in Montreal on October 27<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>. The program gathers communications professionals from the education fields from across the country. Our team led by Mike Cohen will be present;
- The EMSB is also thrilled to welcome EMSB alumni and former City News Montreal journalist, Pamela Pagano to our Marketing and Communications team. Pamela's primary role is to work with students at Pierre de Coubertin, Dante and Honoré Mercier Elementary Schools to enhance their media literacy via unique projects such as podcasts, package video reports and more. Pamela will also have the opportunity to highlight other events and activities at these schools throughout the East End. Pamela attended the former General Vanier Elementary School and Laurier Macdonald High School of the EMSB and we welcome her back;
- Mr. Katalifos congratulated all of our schools and centres for their participation in the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Schools held Orange Shirt Day activities, commemorations, and field trips to mark the occasion. Parents who would like to view some of the activities that took place can visit the individual schools' websites and social media pages;
- The Fall edition of the EMSB Express Newspaper has been published. It includes an overview of High School open houses, messages from several people of the School Board including our Chair, the Youth Sector Calendar. A special section recognizing volunteers and other sections on gifted and exceptional learners, sports and more. It can be read on our EMSB website and hard copies have been sent out to all schools;
- The EMSB will have an information table at the Annual Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers (QPAT) on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at the Bonaventure Hotel;
- A team from the Shadd Health and Business Centre took part in the BDO Cedars CanSupport Dragon Boat Race on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at the Promenade Pere-Marquette in Lachine. The Shadd Baton Rouge Fire Breathers paddled their hearts out and collected an outstanding amount of \$15,000. Congratulations to everyone who participated and raised a substantial amount of money for such a good cause;
- Finally, the EMSB will partner with the Skills Compétences Canada organization for a special event on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Students will be invited to participate in hands-on workshops and activities from the various Vocational Training Centres, as well as tour the Rosemount Technology Centre's cabinet making and furniture finishing facilities which are based at the John F. Kennedy Adult Education Centre. The mandate of the Skills Compétences Canada organization is to advance the engagement of youth and their communities in skilled trade and technology careers using a pan-Canadian approach.

7. In Memoriam

7.1 Tribute for October 2023

**WHEREAS** the Board values the contributions 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. JOE ORTONA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board note with regret the passing of:

Donny D'Ornellas, Retired Printing Officer, Education Services  
Elaine Lessard, Retired Office Agent Class I, Financial Services, Payroll

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

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 23-10-03-7.1

7b. Mandatory Holocaust Education

**WHEREAS** the Holocaust marked the state-sponsored persecution and mass murder of millions of European Jews, Romani people, the intellectually disabled, political dissidents and homosexuals by the German Nazi regime between 1933 and 1945;

**WHEREAS** the province of Ontario has introduced mandatory Holocaust learning for the first time in elementary schools this fall;

**WHEREAS** studies show that when Holocaust education is provided, hate crimes and incidents against Jews decrease significantly;

**WHEREAS** B'nai Brith Canada states that making Holocaust education mandatory reduces hate incidents targeting other racial and religious minorities;

**WHEREAS** in 2022, B'nai Brith Canada documented 722 antisemitic incidents in Quebec;

**WHEREAS** a 2020 survey by Echoes and Reflection, a prominent American program that equips educators for effective instruction of the Holocaust found that those who received Holocaust education are more tolerant and more comfortable with people of a different race or sexual orientation than those who did not;

**WHEREAS** the EMSB has initiated its own Holocaust Education Program, including guest speakers and visits to the Montreal Holocaust Museum;

**WHEREAS** as Holocaust survivors age and pass away, it is more important than ever that the education system play an increasingly important role;

**WHEREAS** as the present-day History curriculum in public high schools allows for some opportunities to discuss the Holocaust;

**WHEREAS** The Foundation for Genocide Education has produced a pedagogical guide entitled "Teaching about Genocide," allowing Quebec teachers to become the first in the country to have access to such an educational tool to support them in the sometimes difficult and challenging task of studying genocides in the classroom.

	<p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOE ORTONA, MR. JAMIE FABIAN, MS. ELLIE ISRAEL AND MR. JULIEN FELDMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the English Montreal School Board call upon Quebec’s Ministry of Education to make Holocaust Education compulsory in elementary and high schools and that the Ministry consults the Ontario curriculum and mandate the Conseil Supérieur de l’Éducation and other stakeholders to determine how best to introduce this new curriculum and ensure teacher training.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-7b</u></p>
8.	<p><u>Abolishment of By-Law No. 8 – Complaint Examination Procedure – For Consultation</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> pursuant to section 220.2 of the Education Act and in conformity with the Regulation Respecting the Complaint Examination Procedure Established by a School Board (c. I-13.3, r.7.1), the Council of Commissioners adopted By-Law No. 8 – Complaint Examination Procedure, by virtue of Resolution # 20-10-28-6.2;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> By-Law No. 8 must be abolished, in conformity with the National Student Ombudsman Act;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> public notice of the abolishment of By-Law No. 8 must be given at least 30 days prior to its adoption of abolishment, according to section 392 of the Education Act;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> sections 96.25, 183 and 193 of the Education Act require that the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC) and the English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC) participate in the defining and abolishment of a By-Law concerning the Complaint Examination Procedure;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the abolishment of By-Law No. 8 – Complaint Examination Procedure, be approved and sent out, for the purpose of consultation, to the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC) and the English Montreal School Board Parents Committee (EMSBPC) and the results of the consultation be returned to the Secretary General, Me Nathalie Lauzière, no later than November 3, 2023, as outlined in the documentation submitted at the meeting;</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT a public notice of 30 days be given indicating the English Montreal School Board’s (EMSB) intent to abolish the proposed By-Law, as per section 392 of the Education Act.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-8</u></p>
9.	<p><u>Nomination of Joe Ortona for President of the QESBA – 2023-2025</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the Quebec English Montreal School Boards Association (QESBA), in a memo dated June 16, 2023, invited its member boards to submit nominations for the position of President of the QESBA for 2023-2025, for a two-year term;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> nominations must be submitted to QESBA by October 6, 2023;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JAMES KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the EMSB Council of Commissioners nominates Mr. Joe Ortona for the position of President of the QESBA for 2023-2025, for a two year term.</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Executive Director of QESBA.</p> <p>Vote: 13-0-2, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino and Mr. J. Lalla abstained)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-9</u></p>

10.	<p><u>Sale of Land – Turcot Interchange – Lot # 6 460 236</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) will proceed with the sale of Lot # 6 460 236, property of EMSB, to the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable for the sum of \$5,500\$;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the sale was approved by the EMSB Council of Commissioners on May 23, 2023, as per Resolution # 23-05-23-17.1;</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Director General be authorized to sign the Deed of sale, as well as all other required documents, for the sale of the land known and designated as lot # 6 460 236, property of the English Montreal School Board, to the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité Durable.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-10</u></p>
11.	<p><u>Remuneration of Commissioners 2023-2024</u></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> Order-in-Council #1164-2023, dated August 2, 2023, establishes the new parameters for purposes of calculating the maximum global remuneration of school board commissioners for the 2023-2024 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> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> the total maximum global remuneration of school board commissioners for 2023-2024 is \$140,630, with the Board determining the allocation of this envelope;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>Amendment by Mr. Mario Pietrangelo:</u></p> <p><del><b>WHEREAS</b> remuneration for governance committee memberships is based on a points system, with the value per point being established at \$985;</del></p> <p><b>WHEREAS</b> in the interest of fairness and equity, it is proposed that remuneration for each Commissioner be set at a fixed amount of \$7,566 and for the Chair at \$34,706;</p> <p>Vote on amendment: 12-2-1, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino, Mr. J. Kromida voted against and Mr. M. Bentravato abstained)</p> <p>Vote on Main motion including Amendment:</p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. MARIO PIETRANGELO AND RESOLVED THAT the annual remuneration to EMSB Commissioners be applied retroactively to July 1, 2023, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting;</p> <p>IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT authorization be given to Financial Services to take the appropriate action necessary to reflect the total remuneration for 2023-2024 in the annual budget.</p> <p>Vote on Main Motion: 14-1-0, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino voted against)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-11</u></p>

12. Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres and the MEQ Measures – 2023-2024

**WHEREAS** a committee comprised of the Director General, the Assistant Directors General, the Regional and Sector Directors, and the Directors of departments has reviewed the Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres and the MEQ Measures for 2023-2024;

**WHEREAS** the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC) has reviewed all documentation at their meeting of September 28, 2023;

**WHEREAS** the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC) recommends to the Board the approval of the Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres as well as the allocation of the MEQ Measures for 2023-2024, as per the documentation submitted at the meeting;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JOSEPH LALLA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, as recommended by the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC), the Board approve the Budget Allocations to Schools and Centres as well as the allocation of the MEQ Measures for 2023-2024, as per the documentation submitted at the meeting.

AND THAT the Board authorize the Director General to approve transfers between schools during the 2023-2024 school year.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 23-10-03-12

14. Governance and Ethics Committee

Vote by Secret Ballot

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. MARIA CORSI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to vote by secret ballot when nominations are proposed, for the election of Members, Chair and Vice-Chair on the Governance and Ethics Committee;

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General and Brigida Sellato, Consultant, act as scrutineers for the compilation of the votes.

Vote: 15-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 23-10-03-14a

14.1 Election of Members

**WHEREAS** pursuant to section 193.1 of the Education Act, the Council of Commissioners must establish a Governance and Ethics Committee;

**WHEREAS** the Council must elect five (5) members among the Commissioners;

**WHEREAS** the following Commissioners have submitted their candidacy for the election of Members to the Governance and Ethics Committee:

Ms. Maria Corsi  
Mr. Jamie Fabian  
Mr. Julien Feldman  
Ms. Ellie Israel  
Mr. Joseph Lalla  
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo  
Mr. Tony Speranza



**WHEREAS** the Members of Council proceeded to a secret ballot vote;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. ROSEMARIE FEDERICO AND RESOLVED THAT effective October 3, 2023, the following Commissioners be designated as Members to the Governance and Ethics Committee:

Ms. Maria Corsi  
Mr. Jamie Fabian  
Mr. Julien Feldman  
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo  
Mr. Tony Speranza

Vote: 13-2-0, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino and Mr. J. Lalla voted against)

Resolution # 23-10-03-14.1

#### 14.2 Election of Chair

**WHEREAS** the Council of Commissioners elects the Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, pursuant to sections 10.1.2 and 10.1.3 of By-Law no. 11 on Internal Governance;

**WHEREAS** the Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee shall have the highest personal standards with regard to honesty, reliability and commitment to the role, pursuant to section 10.1.2 of By-Law no. 11 on Internal Governance;

**WHEREAS** the following Commissioners have submitted their candidacy for the election of Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee:

Mr. Julien Feldman  
Mr. Joseph Lalla

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. MARIO PIETRANGELO AND RESOLVED THAT effective October 3, 2023, Mr. Julien Feldman be designated as Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee.

Vote: 13-2-0, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino and Mr. J. Lalla voted against)

Resolution # 23-10-03-14.2

#### 14.3 Election of Vice-Chair

**WHEREAS** the Council of Commissioners elects the Vice-Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee, pursuant to sections 10.1.2 and 10.1.3 of By-Law no. 11 on Internal Governance;

**WHEREAS** the Council of Commissioners shall consider if the Commissioner meets the minimal requirements of the Governance and Ethics Committee, including the qualities of Vice-Chair as per section 10.1.2 of By-Law no. 11 on Internal Governance;

**WHEREAS** the Vice-Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee shall have the highest personal standards with regard to honesty, reliability and commitment to the role, pursuant to section 10.1.2 of By-Law no. 11 on Internal Governance;

**WHEREAS** the following Commissioners have submitted their candidacy for the election of Vice-Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee:

Mr. Joseph Lalla  
Mr. Mario Pietrangelo

	<p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. DANIEL TATONE AND RESOLVED THAT effective October 3, 2023, Mr. Mario Pietrangelo be designated as Vice-Chair of the Governance and Ethics Committee.</p> <p>Vote: 13-2-0, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino and Mr. J. Lalla voted against)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-14.3</u></p>
15.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes</u></p> <p><u>15.1 Adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 5, 2023</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MS. MARIA CORSI AND RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 5, 2023, be approved as presented.</p> <p>Vote: 14-1-0, Adopted (Mr. A. Cannavino voted against)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-15.1</u></p>
16.	<p><u>Business Arising Out of Minutes</u></p> <p>On the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on September 5, 2023, Mr. Lalla spoke of item 15 – <i>School Board Elections – Electoral Divisions (Final Version)</i>.</p> <p>On the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on September 5, 2023, Mr. Cannavino spoke of item 19 – <i>Nomination of Substitute to Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l’île de Montréal (CGTSIM)</i>.</p>
17.	<p><u>Committee Reports</u></p> <p><u>17.1 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services)</u></p> <p>Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Rosemarie Federico:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Elections were held at the first meeting of the year;</li> <li>➤ The Committee then selected the various topics for this year for which they want presentations in the aim of having a better understanding of certain procedures and protocols in order to be equipped to answer any questions coming from parents. The various topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A run through on the journey from the time a child is suspected of having a challenge to being assessed, to receiving a code, to the creation of the IEP and so forth;</li> <li>- Resource allocation and how it is determined, who gets assessed first, who gets a laptop, etc;</li> <li>- How to obtain a French exemption for those students with a language disability without which the student will not receive their High School diploma and therefore will not be able to pursue higher level education. Furthermore, it has come to the attention of the Committee that if the exemption is successfully acquired, it does not follow the student into Cegep. Despite the fact that the language disability will not disappear upon entry into Cegep the student will have no choice but to be subjected to the requirements imposed by Bill 96;</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Finally last year, the Students Services Department and the parents of ACSES decided to embark on a joint project called the Parent Toolkit. At the last meeting, discussions were had with respect to how the toolkit will be made available to parents, whether it would be on social media, on a website, etc. Also, how and who will manage and maintain the kit. Ideas were discussed regarding the type of information that will be included.</li> </ul> <p><u>17.2 Transportation and Safety Advisory Committee</u></p> <p>Item presented by the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Pietro Mercuri:</p>

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>.

### 17.3 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee)

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Mr. Tony Speranza:

- On October 12<sup>th</sup>, the Parents Committee will be holding their Annual General Meeting and will be having elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and other Committees.

### 17.4 Governance and Ethics Committee

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

- The new Governance and Ethics Committee will be sitting and the main thing on their plate is their reaction to the Bill 40 court decision in terms of using it to re-work the By-Laws. The Committee will meet in the near future to discuss the process.

### 17.5 Audit Committee

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

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup>, where the committee will meet with the auditors to discuss their findings and go through the process of the analysis that they have and if there are any questions on internal control issues of the past and how they've been dealt with;
- Subsequent to this meeting, the budget control subcommittee will be meeting.

### 17.6 Human Resources Committee

Item presented by Mr. Mario Pietrangelo on behalf of the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Mario Benvolante:

- There has been no meeting since the last report.

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

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

- The Committee's budget for 2023-2024 was adopted;
- A resolution was adopted as there was a list of services in the Achats Regroupées which included the qualifying of travel agencies for insurance when students of the five member Boards go on trips. There were submissions that were listed and the qualified companies were selected for the period of October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>;
- The Committee also looked at the By-Law on Delegation of Powers and was given final approval;
- A meeting will be held on October 5<sup>th</sup>, to discuss la carte de la défavorisation.
- Regarding the stipend, the Ministry made it clear that they have no intentions of making any changes at this time, no consideration was made. The stipends were adopted unanimously where all members voted with very little debate.

### 17.8 EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee)

Item presented by the Observer, Mr. Joseph Lalla:

- A meeting will be held as soon as the new Student Representatives are elected.

18.	<p><u>Commissioners' Report</u></p> <p>Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. James Kromida:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Junior Campus of Lauren Hill had their open house and Mr. Kromida had the pleasure of attending with his family. It was a great event, very well planned and the children had a great time. Congratulations to the front line people who work hard and who made it possible as they are the ones who are teaching our children to be good citizens for the future.</li> </ul> <p>Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Rosemarie Federico:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ms. Federico had the pleasure of joining the students at John Caboto Academy for their Terry Fox run. It was a beautiful day, the students were excited and it was a really nice experience.</li> </ul> <p>Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. Joseph Lalla:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A team from the Shadd Health and Business Centre in NDG, in Mr. Lalla's district, took part in the BDO Cedars CanSupport Dragon Boat Race on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. The Shadd Baton Rouge Firebreathers paddled their hearts out and collected an outstanding amount of \$14,230. This event is crucial to help raise awareness and much needed funds for Cedars CanSupport, which has, and continues to provide, free psychological, emotional, practical and financial support to cancer patients and their families, one person at a time, for the past 30 years. The Cedars Cancer Foundation was founded in 1966 by a group of individuals in the Lebanese community, who overcame personal loss and dedicated themselves to fighting cancer and to alleviating its effects on patients of all origins and their families. Shadd's involvement comes through its commitment to teambuilding and involvement in the community. This was also a way to expose Shadd, showing others that it is not just a successful vocational school, but also a community contributor. Kudos to Principal Joe Cacchione and to Dominic Aversa of Baton Rouge restaurants for the generous contribution of \$5,000;</li> <li>➤ An estimated 1,500 people came to tour Royal West Academy on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Student ambassadors continue to be the crown jewel of this event. An unprecedented number of alumni were present to answer questions and share their memories. Annually, over 500 students apply to be accepted into Royal West Academy;</li> <li>➤ At Royal West Academy, an Awards Ceremony was held to celebrate the achievements from the 2022-2023 year. We had over 150 recipients of subject awards, principal's list, Sport MVPs, University of Waterloo Math Competitions and Computing Competitions, and Taylor-Negm Awards for outstanding contribution to their ECA program.</li> </ul>
19.	<p><u>Other Business</u></p> <p>None.</p>
20.	<p><u>Adjournment</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY MR. TONY SPERANZA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:43 p.m.</p> <p>Vote: 15-0-0 Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 23-10-03-20</u></p>
	<p>Signed in Montreal, _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Mr. Joe Ortona, Chair</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General</p>