

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Special meeting of the English Montreal School Board was held in the Charles Bancroft Conference Room, 6000 Fielding Avenue, on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Chairman

Ms. M. Jennings, Trustee

Administrators Present:

Ms. A. M. Matheson, Director General
Me B. Duhême, Deputy Director General, Administration Division
Ms. E. Alfonsi, Deputy Director General, Education Division
Me N. Lauzière, Secretary General
Ms. N. Lacroix-Maillette, Regional Director, East Sector
Me M.C. Drouin, Compliance Officer, Material Resources
Ms. S. Furfaro, Director of Educational & Technology Services (Retired)
Ms. S. Léveillé, Director of School Organization
Ms. M. Lusignan, Assistant Director of Educational Services (Interim)
Ms. L. Nassivera, Director of Financial Services
Ms. J. Rene de Cotret, Director of Student Services
Me L. Roy, Director of Legal Services
Ms. A. Sanalitra, Director of Educational Services
Mr. C. Thomas, Director of Information Technology
Ms. A. Watson, Director of Human Resources
Mr. M. Cohen, Communications and Marketing Specialist
Ms. B. Sellato, Communications Consultant
Ms. V. Raccio, Secretary

There was one (1) member of the public present.

1.	<p><u>Proper Notice of the Agenda</u></p> <p>It was reported that the notice calling this special meeting had been forwarded by the Secretary General to the Trustee and to all Members of the Management team via email.</p>
2.	<p><u>Approval of the Agenda</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.</p> <p>Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 20-02-25-2</u></p>
3.	<p><u>In Camera</u></p>

	<p>3.1 <u>Motion to Move In Camera</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the meeting move In Camera at 2:01 p.m.</p> <p>Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 20-02-25-3.1</u></p>
	<p>The meeting resumed from In Camera at 2:38 p.m.</p>
4.	<p><u>Adoption of Resolution(s) from In Camera</u></p> <p>4.1 <u>Director General’s Report on Staff Changes for the period of October 1st to December 31st,2019 (Executive Committee)</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the Executive Committee approve the documentation submitted by the Director of Human Resources pertaining to staff changes for the period of October 1st 2019 to December 31st 2019.</p> <p>Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 20-02-25-4.1</u></p>
5.	<p><u>Question Period</u></p> <p><u>Mr. Chris Eustace, Member of the Community</u></p> <p>Mr. Eustace took the time to compliment Ms. Matheson on her message that was sent out reassuring every employee of the Board with the new Bill 40.</p> <p>Mr. Eustace also complimented the English and French Boards that are working together against Bill 40.</p> <p>Mr. Eustace asked if there are any penalties for Community Directors with the new Bill 40.</p>
6.	<p><u>Tribute to Alessandra Furfaro, Director of Educational and Technology Services</u></p> <p>WHEREAS Mrs. Alessandra Furfaro, better known as Sandra Furfaro, began her career in 1974 as a teacher at the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal (PSBGM), teaching subjects such as French as a second language, French Immersion and Geography;</p> <p>WHEREAS Mrs. Furfaro has held numerous positions including Coordinator of French for the PSBGM Summer Schools and Department Head of Social Studies at Lauren Hill Academy from 1992 to 1995;</p> <p>WHEREAS Mrs. Furfaro served as a Vice-Principal and Principal in PSBGM and EMSB schools from 1994 to 2003, including Rosemount High School and Leonardo Da Vinci Elementary School;</p> <p>WHEREAS Mrs. Furfaro was promoted to Assistant Director of Pedagogical Services in 2003 and then promoted to Director of Pedagogical Services in 2005;</p> <p>WHEREAS in 2014 Mrs. Furfaro became the Director of Educational and Technology Services;</p>

	<p>WHEREAS from 2000 to 2002 Mrs. Furfaro served as the President of AMSA, the Association of Montreal School Administrators;</p> <p>WHEREAS from 2005 to 2009 Mrs. Furfaro served on the Board of Directors for AAESQ, the Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec, in different capacities, including Treasurer and President;</p> <p>WHEREAS Mrs. Furfaro has also co-chaired and chaired several committees such as LCEEQ, The Leadership Committee for English Education in Québec, and DEEN, the Directors of English Education Network, where her extensive knowledge was greatly respected;</p> <p>WHEREAS Mrs. Furfaro is recognized by the larger English community of Quebec as a leader in the education sector who worked with her colleagues at the EMSB, as well as other boards and community groups, to ensure quality educational services for all students;</p> <p>WHEREAS words cannot express the EMSB’s gratitude and appreciation for the outstanding contributions made by Mrs. Furfaro throughout her career in English education;</p> <p>WHEREAS Sandra Furfaro will be dearly missed by her colleagues at the EMSB;</p> <p>IT IS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT there be inscribed in the records of the Board, the recognition of Mrs. Sandra Furfaro’s invaluable contributions to English education, and that there be extended to her the Board’s best wishes for a happy, healthy and well deserved retirement.</p> <p>Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 20-02-25-6</u></p>
7.	<p><u>Adoption of Minutes of Meetings held on:</u></p> <p>7.1 <u>December 19, 2019 (Special Board)</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, THAT the minutes of December 19, 2019 be approved as presented.</p> <p>Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 20-02-25-7.1</u></p> <p>7.2 <u>January 20, 2020 (Special Board)</u></p> <p>IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, THAT the minutes of January 20, 2020 be approved as presented.</p> <p>Adopted</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Resolution # 20-02-25-7.2</u></p>
8.	<p><u>Business Arising Out of Minutes</u></p> <p>None.</p>
9.	<p><u>In Memoriam</u></p> <p>WHEREAS the Board values the contribution made by its employees;</p>

WHEREAS the Board wishes to take official cognizance of the passing of any member of its large family of employees;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED that the Board note with regret the passing of-

Francesco Cucuzzella, Retired Teacher of Lester B. Pearson High School
Irene Berry, Retired lunch monitor, Westmount Park Elementary School
Judy Brebner, Executive Secretary of Human Resources
Kostas Karamitsos, Retired Caretaker, EMSB
Antoinetta Sassi, Retired Vice Principal of James Lyng High School

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

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-9.1

Former Commissioner Mr. Ricardo Gill

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 Mr. Ricardo Gill was first elected as Commissioner to Ward 1 (Lachine, Dorval) to the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal in November of 1987 and was re-elected as Commissioner to Ward 3 (Lachine, Dorval) in November of 1990 and served as Commissioner until 1998;

WHEREAS in his career as Commissioner, Mr. Gill served as a member of the Executive Committee, Chairman of the Finance and Legislative Committee, member of the Transportation Committee and as an Observer to the Advisory Committee on Special Education Services;

WHEREAS Mr. Gill served as an active volunteer and involved community member in various forms; on school committees, president of the National Council of Barbadian Associations of Canada, Executive Member of the Etho-cultural Council of Canada, Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Greater Montreal Housing and Development Society and Chairman for the Holistic Project on the Steering Committee for the English Speaking Black Community of Greater Montreal;

WHEREAS Mr. Gill had a long involvement in the establishment of the Multicultural/Multiracial Policy for the PSBGM which developed teaching and learning strategies and programs to optimize the full development and academic success of students;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED that the Board note with regret the passing of former Commissioner Ricardo Gill whose contributions helped develop the PSBGM, EMSB and the communities in which he served.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-9.2

Ms. M. Jennings stated that Mr. Gill was one of her mentors. He encouraged her to consider a political life and to run for the NDG/ Lachine riding. She owes him a deep depth of gratitude. She personally thanked the Board for recognizing Mr. Gill's contribution to Education.

10. Aligning our Commitment-to-Success Plan with the new MEES Strategic Plan

WHEREAS school boards are required, according to revised *section 209.1 of Bill 105, an Act to Amend the Education Act*, to establish a Commitment-to-Success Plan that is consistent with the strategic directions and objectives of the Ministry of Education’s Policy Success;

WHEREAS, the EMSB’s Commitment-to-Success Plan came into effect on April 25th, 2018 by council Resolution #18-04-25-12.2;

WHEREAS, the current Commitment-to-Success Plan covers the period from 2019 to 2022;

WHEREAS, on December 9th, 2019 the *Ministère de l’Éducation et de l’Enseignement Supérieur (MEES)* released its new Strategic Plan, which covers the period from 2019 to 2023;

WHEREAS, on February 7th, 2020 MEES Deputy Minister Eric Blackburn sent a letter instructing school boards to amend the Commitment-to-Success Plan period of 2019 to 2022 to be aligned with the new period of 2019 to 2023 set by the MEES in its new Strategic Plan;

IT IS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the proposed amendment to the Commitment-to-Success Plan period of 2019 to 2022 to be aligned with the new MEES Strategic Plan period of 2019 to 2023 be approved; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board shall send its amended Commitment-to-Success Plan to the *Ministère de l’Éducation et de l’Enseignement Supérieur, (MEES)*, and make the document public, as per section 209.1 of Bill 105, an Act to Amend the Education Act.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-10

Ms. M. Jennings stated she was really impressed by our Commitment-to-Success Plan.

11. EMSBS Contract Management Processes – 2019-20 Action Plan – REVISED

WHEREAS in January 2019, the Treasury Board informed the English Montreal School Board (the “EMSBS”) that it would be audited for the period of January 1st, 2017 to December 31st, 2018;

WHEREAS following this audit, the Treasury Board submitted a report on November 5th, 2019;

WHEREAS pursuant to this report, the EMSBS was required to submit an action plan by December 20, 2019;

WHEREAS the 2019-20 EMSBS Action Plan was submitted within the required delay;

WHEREAS on January 23, 2020, the Treasury Board informed the EMSBS of their comments on said Action Plan;

WHEREAS pursuant to these comments, the EMSBS reviewed its 2019-20 Action Plan;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the EMSBS Contract Management Processes – 2019-20 Action Plan REVISED be approved and submitted to the Treasury Board.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-11

12. Appointment of External Auditors

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 284 of the Education Act, school boards are required to appoint their external auditors on an annual basis;

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) proceeded with a public call for tender in February 2017 for Professional Auditing services;

WHEREAS by virtue of resolution #17-03-29-14.3, the firm of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L. was awarded the contract for auditing services for the five (5) fiscal years of 2016-2017 through 2020-2021 (3 years plus 2 option years);

WHEREAS the firm of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L. was appointed auditors for the three (3) fiscal years of 2016-2017 through 2018-2019;

WHEREAS the EMSB wishes to avail itself of the two (2) option years for the fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the firm of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L. be appointed auditors for the English Montreal School Board for the fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, as per the contract awarded by virtue of resolution #17-03-29-14.3;

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-12

13. Educational Services – Creation of Position – Homeschooling Educational Consultant

WHEREAS in conformity with Operating Budget procedure, all requests to incur additional expenditures over and above the approved original Operating Budget, the creation of new positions and to reduce projected revenues from previous forecasts must be approved by the Board;

WHEREAS there has been established a protocol whereby departments are to submit (via the Budget Control Committee) the appropriate form indicating such requests with supporting rationale;

WHEREAS Financial Services is to submit such department requests on a month-to-month basis as deemed warranted;

WHEREAS, as per Section 8.1 of By-Law no. 10 - Delegation of Powers, the Director General has the authority to approve the transfer of budgets;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET CONTROL COMMITTEE THAT, the position of educational consultant be created;

AND THAT, as per Section 8.1 of By-Law no. 10 - Delegation of Powers, the Director General approves the budget transfer, in the amount of \$33,600, from the 2019-2020 homeschooling external contracts budget to the homeschooling educational consultant budget.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-13

14.

Budget Increase

14.1 Information Technology – Security Information Analyst

WHEREAS in conformity with Operating Budget procedure, all requests to incur additional expenditures over and above the approved original Operating Budget, the creation of new positions and to reduce projected revenues from previous forecasts must be approved by the Board;

WHEREAS there has been established a protocol whereby departments are to submit (via the Budget Control Committee) the appropriate form indicating such requests with supporting rationale;

WHEREAS Financial Services is to submit such department requests on a month-to-month basis as deemed warranted;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET CONTROL COMMITTEE THAT, the position of security information analyst be created;

AND THAT a budget increase, in the amount of \$26,880, for the security information analyst be transferred from the 2019-2020 appropriated accumulated surplus budget to the security information analyst budget, and amounts of \$85,000 each be reserved from the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 appropriated accumulated surplus budget for the security information analyst position.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-14.1

14.2 Information Technology – Data Processing Technician, Principal Class

WHEREAS in conformity with Operating Budget procedure, all requests to incur additional expenditures over and above the approved original Operating Budget, the creation of new positions and to reduce projected revenues from previous forecasts must be approved by the Board;

WHEREAS there has been established a protocol whereby departments are to submit (via the Budget Control Committee) the appropriate form indicating such requests with supporting rationale;

WHEREAS Financial Services is to submit such department requests on a month-to-month basis as deemed warranted;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET CONTROL COMMITTEE THAT, the position of data processing technician (web-developer) be created;

AND THAT a budget increase, in the amount of \$21,667, for the data processing technician (web-developer) position be transferred from the 2019-2020 appropriated accumulated surplus to the data processing technician budget, and that an amount of \$65,000 be reserved from the 2020-2021 appropriated accumulated surplus budget for the data processing technician position.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-14.2

14.3 Secretariat General – Agility Fees for Websites

WHEREAS in conformity with Operating Budget procedure, all requests to incur additional expenditures over and above the approved original Operating Budget, the creation of new positions and to reduce projected revenues from previous forecasts must be approved by the Board;

WHEREAS there has been established a protocol whereby departments are to submit (via the Budget Control Committee) the appropriate form indicating such requests with supporting rationale;

WHEREAS Financial Services is to submit such department requests on a month-to-month basis as deemed warranted;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET CONTROL COMMITTEE THAT, a budget increase, in the amount of \$8,000, for the Agility website fees be transferred from the 2019-2020 appropriated accumulated surplus budget to the Agility website fees budget.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-14.3

15. Correspondence- CGTSIM Annual Report

For Information

16. Other Business

16.1 Decision of the Substitute Ethics Commissioner: Sylvia Lo Bianco, Commissioner vs. Me Giuseppe Ortona, Vice- Chairman

WHEREAS Me Anthony Battah, the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Substitute Ethics Commissioner, has rendered his decision on February 23, 2020, regarding the Sylvia Lo Bianco, Commissioner vs. Me Giuseppe Ortona, Vice-Chairman complaint case filed on January 7, 2019;

WHEREAS the mandate of the Ethics Commissioner and its Substitute is to apply the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Members of the Council of Commissioners of the EMSB (hereinafter the “Code of Ethics”) and to provide for sanctions in accordance with the Education Act;

WHEREAS the Substitute Ethics Commissioner acquitted Me Giuseppe Ortona of alleged offence with regards to allegation #1 and concluded in accordance with section 7.4.3 of the Code of Ethics, that Me Giuseppe Ortona discharged his duties in good faith with respect to this allegation;

WHEREAS the Substitute Ethics Commissioner declared Me Giuseppe Ortona guilty of a breach of sections 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 of the Code of Ethics and section 159 of the Education Act with regards to allegation #2, and concluded in accordance with section 7.4.3 of the Code of Ethics, that Me Giuseppe Ortona discharged his duties in good faith with respect to this allegation;

WHEREAS in his decision dated February 23, 2020, Me Battah decided that the following sanction be imposed upon Me Giuseppe Ortona:

A public reprimand and a suspension for 2 weeks of all of the attributions and functions of a commissioner, except the right to participate and vote in the public meetings of the

Council of Commissioners.

WHEREAS section 7.4.4 of the Code of Ethics provides that all decisions rendered by the Ethics Commissioner are public, and shall be recorded in the minutes of the Council of Commissioners;

IT WAS MOVED BY THE TRUSTEE, MS. M. JENNINGS, AND RESOLVED THAT the Board acknowledges and deposits the decision rendered on February 23, 2020 by Me Anthony Battah, Substitute Ethics Commissioner in the case of Sylvia Lo Bianco, Commissioner vs. Me Giuseppe Ortona, Vice-Chairman.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-16.1

17. Adjournment

On a motion by the Trustee, Ms. M. Jennings, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Adopted

Resolution # 20-02-25-17

Signed in Montreal, _____

Ms. Marlene Jennings, Chairman

Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General