

Local News

EMSB chair Angela Mancini resigns, citing 'unfair' process

Announces her decision on Facebook after the publication this month of a withering report on her performance as chair of the EMSB.

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Angela Mancini's departure comes after the publication of a withering report on her performance as chair of the EMSB. PIERRE OBENDRAUF / Montreal Gazette files

Angela Mancini, who for more than a decade served as chair of the English Montreal School Board, resigned Wednesday.

In a statement posted Wednesday [on her Facebook page](#), Mancini wrote that after 22 years of service with the school commission she was resigning, effective immediately.



"I can say with certainty that I will not be standing for re-election this November," she wrote. "Circumstances being what they are, I find myself having trusted a process that turned out to be an unfair one and questioning the reasons why this occurred. I have been given many options that I could pursue but after some reflection, I find myself making a decision that will help me regain my inner peace. More importantly, a decision that will allow my family to regain their mom and their daughter."

Mancini's departure comes after the publication this month of [a withering report on her performance as chair of the EMSB](#).

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The report, compiled by Steven Droz, a specialist in human resources and labour relations, was filed after the school board launched an investigation into Mancini's claims she had been the victim of harassment by other board members.

However, Droz not only found that Mancini's claims were unfounded, but recommended that the "(provincial) governments should take the unusual but necessary steps to declare that Ms. Mancini (and a person whose name was redacted from the report) and their supporters and/or proxies are not eligible to run for office during the Nov. 6, 2020 school board elections, or any successive elections."

Saying she was the victim of ["a political vendetta,"](#) Mancini described Droz's report as "half baked" and said the proposed ban on her seeking office with the EMSB was a violation of her fundamental rights.

Marlene Jennings, who the Quebec government appointed as trustee of the school board in November, thanked Mancini Wednesday for her more than 20 years of service to the school board.

"Angela Mancini devoted more than two decades of her life to the public education system," Jennings said in a statement. "We thank her for her service and wish her the very best in the future."

Mancini was elected to the EMSB as a commissioner in 1998. She was elected chair in 2008.

Since there are only four months remaining until school board elections, Jennings said the position of chairperson will remain vacant. Vice-Chair Joe Ortona will exercise the powers and functions of the chair, she added.

In her notice of resignation on Wednesday, Mancini wrote: "Regardless of my good intentions, I have certainly made mistakes along the way. When it was possible, I rectified my mistakes. I definitely learned from them and took responsibility for them."

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