

# EMSB has highest Quebec public school board success rate, new stats show

At 92.4 per cent, the English Montreal School Board's success rate is only slightly lower than the success rate for private schools.

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New statistics show that among Quebec students who started high school in 2011, 92.4 per cent of EMSB students earned a high school certification within a seven-year period. *JOHN MAHONEY / MONTREAL GAZETTE*

New figures released by the provincial government show the English Montreal School Board achieved the highest success rate among public school boards in Quebec for a cohort of students that started high school in 2011.

The roughly 77,000 students from across the province were tracked during a seven-year period following their first year of high school, a method used by the provincial government since the early 1990s to determine success rates across school boards.

The results showed 92.4 per cent of EMSB students earned a high school certification during the seven years.

The EMSB's rate is above the provincewide rate for public and private schools together, 81.8 per cent, and only slightly below the success rate for private schools across the province, 92.9 per cent. The success rate for public schools was 78.6 per cent.

Of the same cohort of students, 82.8 per cent of EMSB students graduated in five years, compared to the provincewide rate of 70.8 per cent.

In the Montreal area, the EMSB was followed by the Lester B. Pearson School Board with a success rate of 89.5 per cent, the Commission scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys (87.8 per cent), the Commission scolaire de la Pointe-de-l'Île (77.4 per cent) and the Commission scolaire de Montréal (74.4 per cent).

In a statement, EMSB director general Ann Marie Matheson called the figures a testament to how the EMSB is fulfilling its mission through “a variety of pedagogical initiatives and student support strategies.”

“Our goal is to ensure that all students achieve their full potential,” Matheson said. “No matter what else is going on, we never lose sight of our primary mission: student success.”

The results come while the provincial government is considering putting the EMSB under partial or complete trusteeship following a scathing report about dysfunction and infighting at the board

(<https://montrealgazette.com/news/quebec/government-report-says-emsb-is-dysfunctional-should-be-stripped-of-powers>).

Released last Friday by [Education Minister Jean-François Roberge](#) (<https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/emsb-commissioners-weigh-in-on-governments-scathing-report>), the report revealed a series of irregularities in the way the board operates and said the EMSB has been paralyzed by never-ending internal conflict.

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