MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD

A Regular Meeting of the English Montreal School Board has taken place on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in the Laurence Patterson Room, 6000 Fielding Avenue, Montreal.

Commissioners Present

Mr. Joe Ortona, Chair

Mr. James Kromida, Vice-Chair

Ms. Maria Corsi, Commissioner

Ms. Chelsea Craig, Commissioner

Mr. Julien Feldman, Commissioner

Ms. Jessica Houde-Woytiuk, Parent Commissioner

Ms. Paula Kilian, Commissioner

Ms. Julie Kristof, Parent Commissioner

Mr. Pietro Mercuri, Commissioner

Ms. Sharon Nelson, Commissioner

Ms. Susan Perera, Commissioner

Ms. Merika Ramundo, Parent Commissioner

Ms. Jennifer Rutt, Parent Commissioner

Commissioners Not Present

Mr. Mario Pietrangelo, Commissioner

Ms. Paola Samuel, Commissioner

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. Darlene Kehyayan, Regional Director, East

Ms. Angela Spagnolo, Regional Director, AEVS

Mr. Mario Cardin, Director, Material Resources

Ms. Sandra Léveillé, Director, School Organization

Ms. Livia Nassivera, Director, Financial Services

Ms. Julie René de Cotret, Director, Student Services

Ms. Anna Sanalitro, Director, Educational Services

Me Magdalena Sokol, Director, Legal Services

Mr. Charalambos Thomas, Director, Information Technology Services

Ms. Ann Watson, Director, Human Resources

Ms. Marilyn Ramlakhan, Assistant Director, Human Resources

Mr. Michael Cohen, Manager, Marketing and Communications

Ms. Brigida Sellato, Consultant, Secretariat General

1. <u>Land Acknowledgement</u>

We/I would like to acknowledge 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 Tiohtiá: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.

2. Nomination of Yieun Baik as Student of the Month

The Student of the Month for June is Yieun Baik (pronounced Yoo-uhn Bake), a Grade 4 student from Bancroft School. Yieun came to Canada from Korea last year and in only two years at the EMSB is completely fluent in English and French. Her teachers marvel at her positive attitude, consistently striving to do her best and encouraging her peers to do the same. Yieun is always the first to volunteer for school-wide activities, serving as a leader whenever possible. Regardless of the day, she comes into school with a smile on her face, excited for the possibilities that come with a new day. Congratulations Yieun!

3. AEVS – Olympiades québécoises des métiers et des technologies 2025

The AEVS Department recognized and congratulated all the competitors and medal winners for their remarkable achievement.

4. Question Period

Questions from Mr. Chris Eustace were read and addressed by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona, regarding the following:

- ➤ Recommendations CARE conference report
- Budget cuts

5. Approval of Agenda

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. CHELSEA CRAIG AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved with the removal of item 15 – *Motion to Support Campaign to Have Canada Seek Presidency of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.*

Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 25-06-17-5

6. Adoption of Minutes

6.1. Regular Board Meeting held on May 27, 2025

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. SHARON NELSON AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 29, 2025, be approved as presented.

Vote: 13-0-0, Adopted

Resolution # 25-06-17-6.1

7. <u>Business Arising Out of Minutes</u>

None.

8. Chair's Report

Presented by the Chair, Mr. Joe Ortona:

- After the federal election took place, letters of congratulations were sent out on behalf of the EMSB to all elected and re-elected MPs on the EMSB territory;
- May was Jewish Heritage Month in Canada, an opportunity to celebrate the rich history, culture and enduring contributions of the Jewish community to Quebec and Canada as a whole. Within the EMSB, the Jewish community has always played and continues to play an important role as parents, educators, students and community leaders. Jewish Heritage Month is a time to reflect on that legacy, to honor the traditions and values that have shaped our shared experience and to affirm our commitment to diversity, inclusion and mutual respect across all of our schools;
- As May 1st was National Principal's Day, Mr. Ortona took a moment to extend his deepest gratitude to the dedicated principals across the English Montreal School Board. Their leadership, compassion and unwavering commitment to student success really are the foundation of our schools. Principals are more than administrators, they are mentors, problem solvers, champions for their communities and sometimes even social workers or therapists. Each day principals guide our schools through challenges and opportunities with professionalism and with heart, and whether it is by supporting teachers, engaging with parents, fostering inclusive learning environments, their role is essential in shaping the future for our students. On behalf of the entire Council and EMSB community, Mr. Ortona thanked the principals for all they do;
- Mr. Ortona had the privilege of attending Merton School to honor three outstanding teachers, Pascale Nizri Lallouz from Merton School, Michael Dorais-Bunn from Marymount Academy International and Elias Tanbe from Wagar Adult Education Centre. A very nice event which really serves as a reminder that teachers truly inspire in ways that you can't even imagine;
- ➤ On May 9th, Mr. Ortona attended the Quebec English Speaking Communities Research Network (QUESCREN), which consisted of a full-day seminar on section 23 in both English and French. It was a very well attended event with some great inspirational speakers, one being Tom Mulcair. It really served as a nice reminder that even in the French education network there are a lot of allies who support section 23;
- ➤ The second Sunday of May was Mother's Day. It is a day to celebrate the incredible women who shape our lives with strength, compassion and endless love. To all the mothers, grandmothers and mother figures in the EMSB community, thank you for all of your sacrifices, the lessons you teach and the inspiration you provide each day;
- ➤ The Spring Conference also took place in May with some great workshops and professional development sessions, including the very important one that is held every year on section 23. The EMSB is very proud to be hosting the next AAESQ/QESBA Spring Conference in 2026;

- ➤ On May 20th, Mr. Ortona had the honor of attending the 105th anniversary of Carlyle School. It was a beautiful event organized by the school. Also in attendance were Ms. Paula Kilian, Commissioner, and Peter Malouf, Mayor of Town of Mont Royal;
- ➤ The Long Service Reception took place on May 20th. In attendance with Mr. Ortona were Commissioners Ms. Maria Corsi, Ms. Houde-Woytiuk, Ms. Nelson, Mr. Pietrangelo and Ms. Ramundo. Mr. Ortona took a moment to congratulate all the employees and thanked them for their 25 years of dedicated service to the EMSB;
- Pon May 22nd was the Cérémonie de remise de bourses de la persévérance scolaire 2025 de l'arrondissement Rivière-des-Prairies—Pointe-aux-Trembles, which took place at the Maison du Citoyen in Pointe-aux-Trembles. It is a one-of-a-kind event where one student from every public school in the borough is recognized for their efforts and perseverance in school and given a bursary based on any one of the following selection criteria, either a significant increase in academic grades, class attendance, academic effort, and a significant improvement in classroom behavior. Mr. Ortona had the privilege of attending the event alongside Ward Commissioner, Mr. Pietro Mercuri. Mr. Ortona had the honor to speak at the event and congratulate the three EMSB Grade 6 recipients: Samantha Di Giacomo from Leonardo Da Vinci Academy, Milena Passalacqua from Michelangelo International Elementary School and Jaxon Pisano from East Hill Elementary School;
- ➤ On May 29th, Mr. Ortona attended the Rosemount High School graduation with Commissioner Ms. Maria Corsi. Congratulations to the Rosemount High School graduating class of 2025;
- The QCGN General Assembly was held on June 4th. They changed their name to TALQ which stands for Talking, Advocating, Living in Quebec. It is an organization that is dedicated to defending the rights and the vitality of Quebec's English-speaking community. Mr. Ortona is honored to be elected to the Board of Directors. As the Chair of the EMSB and the President of the Quebec English School Board Association (QESBA), Mr. Ortona is proud to have consistently stood up for our communities, institutions, language rights and the education of our future generations;
- On June 4th, Mr. Ortona was proud to record a congratulatory speech to the graduates of the Quebec Virtual Academy;
- ➤ On June 6th, Mr. Ortona attended the LaurenHill Academy graduation. Also present were Emmanuella Lambropoulos, Member of Parliament for Saint-Laurent, and Mr. James Kromida, Vice-Chair and Commissioner for Saint-Laurent. Congratulations to the LaurenHill graduating class of 2025;
- ➤ On June 11th, an event was held by The Task Force on Linguistic Policy called Our Rights Notwithstanding, which was moderated by Commissioner Mr. Julien Feldman. Mr. Ortona had the honor of being a panelist and spoke about section 23, the notwithstanding clause;
- The 11th annual D'Arcy McGee National Assembly Citizenship Ceremony took place on June 12th in the Ashkelon Gardens in Côte Saint-Luc. At the event, medals were awarded to individuals and organizations who have made a meaningful and positive impact on Quebec society. Also in attendance alongside Mr. Ortona was Ms. Sharon Nelson, Commissioner for NDG. Mr. Ortona took a moment to thank MNA Ms. Elisabeth Prass for inviting them to the event. Congratulations to Heidi Berger, Nicole Nashen, Agence Ometz and the Côte-des-Neiges Black Community Association for their outstanding work;
- ➤ On June 13th took place the F.A.C.E. School Secondary 5 graduation which Mr. Ortona had the privilege of attending along with the Commissioner for the school, Ms. Maria Corsi. Congratulations to the F.A.C.E. School graduating class of 2025;
- ➤ On June 15th was the Montreal Grand Prix Formula 1 Race and the Willingdon School Choir had the immense honor of singing the national anthem right on the track. It was an experience they absolutely loved;
- Also on June 15th was Father's Day, a time to celebrate fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers and father figures who shape our lives with strength, compassion and dedication. The EMSB sees firsthand how their involvement, whether it is cheering from the sidelines, helping with homework or setting an example of perseverance, makes a difference in the lives of students and the entire community. Thank you to all the dads for all you do!

9. Director General's Report

Presented by the Director General, Mr. Nicholas Katalifos:

- ➤ CBC Montreal has asked their audience to share stories of teachers who have positively impacted them. Parent Jake Roberts successfully nominated Monique Imbeau, a kindergarten teacher at Willingdon Elementary School, who made a difference for one family during the Covid-19 crisis. Congratulations to Ms. Imbeau;
- Ms. Lara Belinsky, Physical Education and Health teacher from Willingdon Elementary School, undertook a fundraiser for two charities: Leucan, which is dedicated to helping children with cancer and their families, and also Women on the Rise, a non-profit organization that offers programs and services to women and their families. Students collected money for the two causes and the one that brought in the most had a chance to ask the teacher to shave her head or get a really short haircut. Because more than \$7,000 was raised, Ms. Belinsky shaved her head. Congratulations to her for serving as an incredible example for our students;
- The Montreal Alouettes handed out \$500 scholarships to two EMSB students at the opening game on June 6 versus Toronto. In a pregame ceremony at the 55-yard line and shown on the big screen, Brian Weightman from the Alouettes presented the scholarships to Lila Stewart from Lester B. Pearson High School and Téarrah Case Davidson from James Lyng High School. Lila is an elite diver who graduates this year and Téarrah is in Secondary 1 and plays basketball;
- > The stars were also aligned for students at Pierre de Coubertin Elementary School as they received a surprise visit from the Esteriore Brothers, world renowned Italian music icons. A fun time was had by all;
- At Dunrae Gardens, in an era where sustainability is more important than ever, students in collaboration with professors and students from HEC Montréal and Dawson College have been stepping up to make a difference. Through the sustainable development program, young minds are being introduced to the core principles of sustainability, while addressing social, environmental and economic challenges in a meaningful way. This year's initiative fosters creativity, critical thinking and teamwork, equipping students with the tools to develop real-world solutions for pressing global issues. The program culminated today with a sustainability fair which took the form of an exciting Shark Tank style event. Mr. Katalifos attended alongside Ms. Nickoletopoulos and Mr. Giannacopoulos. They are very proud of the efforts at Dunrae Gardens:
- ➤ Danielle Brideau, a cabinetmaking student at Rosemount Technology Centre, was recognized at an award ceremony in Quebec City at the *Chapeau*, *les filles!* (Hats Off) 2025 gala. The competition pays tribute to the determination and work of women enrolled in vocational training or technical training program, or bachelor's program in science or engineering that leads to a career in a traditionally male-dominated occupation. Congratulations to Danielle and to all of her teachers and the team at Rosemount Technology Centre;
- ➤ Mr. Katalifos announced the following in-school administrative appointments:
 - John F. Kennedy High School Principal, Permanent Harry Michalopoulos
 - Bancroft Elementary School/M.I.N.D. High School Principal, Permanent Gaetano Sifoni
 - Vincent Massey Collegiate Vice-Principal, Permanent Vito Campbell-Guerriero
 - Shadd Health & Business Centre Principal returning from leave of absence Joe Cacchione
 - Wagar Adult Education Centre Principal, Permanent Demetra Droutsas
 - Westmount High School Principal, Permanent Luigi Santamaria
 - Rosemount High School Principal, Permanent Giovanni Iammarrone
 - James Lyng High School Principal, Permanent Alexander Kulczyk
 - Edinburgh Elementary School Principal, Permanent Laetitia Kachmar
 - John F. Kennedy High School Vice-Principal, Permanent Laura Fiumidinisi
 - Westmount High School Vice-Principal, Permanent Jennifer Martins
 - Leonardo Da Vinci Academy Vice-Principal, Permanent Nadine Pomilio
 - Rosemount High School Vice-Principal, Permanent Jessica Neri
 - Rosemount High School Vice-Principal, Temporary Samira Chawki

- LaurenHill Academy Vice-Principal, Permanent Sabrina Magliocco
- Parkdale Elementary School Vice-Principal, Permanent Karolyn Liverman
- EMSB Virtual School Principal, Temporary Steve Spetsieris
- Royal Vale School Vice-Principal, Temporary Chris Lagakos
- Shadd Health & Business Centre Vice-Principal, Permanent Danica Lewington
- Wagar Adult Education Centre Vice-Principal, Permanent Sarah Amodeo
- Laurier Macdonald Vocational Centre Vice-Principal, Permanent Isabelle Gagnier
- John F. Kennedy Adult Education Centre Vice-Principal, Permanent Christina Voggas
- John F. Kennedy Adult Education Centre Vice-Principal, Temporary Voula Tsagaroulas Congratulations to all on behalf of the School Board, wishing all the very best in their new post.
- > Mr. Katalifos took a moment to thank all our stakeholders for the year, a thank you to all the management team, in-school administrators, all the staff, employees and Commissioners for their continued support, and wished everyone all the best for the summer.

10. Final Adoption of By-Laws

10.1 By-Law No. 1 (2025) – To Affix the Date, Time and Place of the Regular Meetings of the English Montreal School Board

WHEREAS in conformity with Section 162 of the Education Act requires that the Council of Commissioners must establish, by by-law, the date, time and place of its Regular Board meetings;

WHEREAS by virtue of Resolution #25-04-29-11.1, provisional approval was given to Draft By-Law No. 1 (2025);

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 392 of the Education Act, public notice of 30 days has been given;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JAMES KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT final approval be given to By-Law No. 1 (2025) – To Affix the date, time and place of the Regular monthly meetings of the English Montreal School Board for the school session 2025-2026.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-10.1

10.2 By-Law No. 4 (2025) – To Affix the Date, Time and Place of the Regular Meetings of the Executive Committee of the English Montreal School Board

WHEREAS in conformity with Section 162 of the Education Act the Council of Commissioners must establish, by by-law, the date, time and place of its Regular meetings of the Executive Committee;

WHEREAS by virtue of Resolution #25-04-29-11.2, provisional approval was given to Draft By-Law No. 4 (2025);

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 392 of the Education Act, public notice of 30 days has been given;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. CHELSEA CRAIG AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT final approval be given to By-Law No. 4 (2025) – To affix the date, time and place of the Regular meetings of the Executive Committee of the English Montreal School Board for the school session 2025-2026.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-10.2

11. Following Consultation

11.1 Proposed Revision of EMSB Administrative Organizational Chart 2025-2026

WHEREAS the Council of Commissioners approved for consultation the proposed revision of the EMSB Administrative Organizational Chart for 2025-2026;

WHEREAS the Association of English Montreal Board Administrators (AEMBA), the Association québécoise des cadres scolaires – EMSB Section (AQCS), the Association of Montreal School Administrators (AMSA), the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC) and the English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee (EMSBPC) were consulted on the proposed revision of the EMSB Administrative Organizational Chart and invited to submit their views in writing;

WHEREAS the responses to consultation are part of the documentation submitted;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the proposed revised EMSB Administrative Organizational Chart 2025-2026 be approved.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-11.1

11.2 Expanding the Academic Program at Options High School, Outreach High School and Perspectives II High School to Include Secondary 3

WHEREAS at the Board meeting on April 29, 2025, the Council of Commissioners approved for consultation purposes, in Resolution # 25-04-29-12.1, a proposal for the expansion of Options High School, Outreach High School and Perspectives II High School to add Secondary 3 to their academic program for the 2025-2026 school year;

WHEREAS the consulted partners were invited to submit their views by no later than June 2, 2025;

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board Long Range Planning Committee met on June 5, 2025, and recommended that Options High School, Outreach High School and Perspectives II High School add Secondary 3 to their academic program for the 2025-2026 school year;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. SHARON NELSON AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE, THAT the Board approve the expansion of Options High School, Outreach High School and Perspectives II High School to add Secondary 3 to their academic program for the 2025-2026 school year.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-11.2

11.3 Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2025-2028

WHEREAS the Education Act requires the Board to establish a Three-Year Plan for the allocation and utilization of its immovables on an annual basis;

WHEREAS the said Act also requires the Board to issue a Deed of Establishment for each school and adult education and vocational training centre under its jurisdiction;

WHEREAS by virtue of resolution # 25-04-29-12.2 the consultation on the Proposed Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2025-2028 concluded on June 2, 2025;

WHEREAS the Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2025-2028 will take effect July 1, 2025 and a Deed of Establishment for each school and centre will be issued;

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board Long Range Planning Committee met on June 5, 2025 and recommended that the Proposed Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2025-2028 be approved and the applicable Deeds of Establishment be issued accordingly;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. MARIA CORSI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE, THAT the Proposed Three-Year Plan for the Allocation and Destination of Immovables 2025-2028 be approved and the applicable Deeds of Establishment be issued accordingly.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-11.3

12. | 2025-2026 Cafeteria Price List and Subsidy Structure

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) Nutrition Policy requires the Board to approve the cafeteria price list and subsidy structure on an annual basis;

WHEREAS the EMSB Nutrition Policy stipulates that the school cafeterias shall be operated in a manner so that the cost to students is the lowest possible based on the criteria of quality, quantity and nutritional value, and within self-financing parameters;

WHEREAS the amount of \$700,000 from Measure 15012 (Campaign Against Poverty) will serve to subsidize some items based on the criteria of nutritional quality;

WHEREAS the proposed price list and subsidy structure reflects current rises in costs of goods and services;

WHEREAS the CENTRAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (CMAC-RAC) recommends the proposed price list and subsidy structure be approved;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. CHELSEA CRAIG AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – RESOURCE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (CMAC-RAC), THAT the 2025-2026 Cafeteria Price List and Subsidy Structure be approved, as outlined in the documentation submitted to the meeting.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-12

13. Special Education Sector Staffing Changes for 2025-2026

WHEREAS clause 7-3.24 and 7-3.25 of the S18-FEESP-CSN Collective Agreement states that, no later than August 20th of each fiscal year, the Board shall adopt a Staffing Plan in the Special Education Sector;

WHEREAS the Board must submit a draft staffing plan to the Union for consultation five (5) days before it is adopted;

WHEREAS the concerned Union was consulted;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PIETRO MERCURI AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Staffing Plan for the Special Education Sector personnel for the 2025-2026 school year, be approved as per the documentation submitted at the meeting of June 17, 2025.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-13

14. 2025-2026 Management Staffing Plan

14.1 Board Level Administrators

WHEREAS documentation pertaining to the Management Staffing Plan Head Office 2025-2026 was presented to the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC);

WHEREAS the Board did present additions and revisions to the staffing plan for Management Head Office;

WHEREAS the additions and revisions to the Management Staffing Plan 2025-2026 reflect the changes to the EMSB Organizational Structure, as presented to the Board on June 17, 2025, following consultation;

WHEREAS the additions and revisions to the Management Staffing Plan as reflected on the EMSB Organizational Structure were presented for consultation to AEMBA and AQCS;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. JAMES KROMIDA AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Management Staffing Plan Head Office 2025-2026 school session be approved as per the documentation submitted at the meeting of June 17, 2025.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-14.1

14.2 School and Centre Administrators

WHEREAS Article 3.001 of the Local Management Policy of the AMSA (Association of Montreal School Administrators) states that, as a matter of principle, and in accordance with Bill 107, school and centre administrators are to be consulted on all matters pertaining to Board policies and the management of schools;

WHEREAS documentation pertaining to the Management Staffing Plan for schools and centres 2025-2026 was presented to the Central Management Advisory Committee – Resource Allocation Committee (CMAC-RAC);

WHEREAS the Board did present additions and revisions to the staffing plan for school and centre administrators:

WHEREAS the revisions to classifications for administrators were applied in accordance with the government regulations;

IT WAS MOVED BY MS. MERIKA RAMUNDO AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the Council of Commissioners approve the Management Staffing Plan for School and Centre Administrators of the English Montreal School Board for the 2025-2026 school session, as per the documentation submitted at the meeting of June 17, 2025.

Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted (Mr. J. Feldman not present for the vote)

Resolution # 25-06-17-14.2

15. Motion to Support Campaign to Have Canada Seek Presidency of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

Item Removed.

16. Deposit of Ethics Commissioner Decision – S. Perez vs. P. Samuel – 4186.12

Deposit of the decision of Me Vincent Guida, Ethics Commissioner, dated June 12, 2025, S. Perez vs. P. Samuel.

17. Deposit of Ethics Commissioner Decision – S. Perez vs. G. Ortona – 4186.13

Deposit of the decision of Me Vincent Guida, Ethics Commissioner dated June 12, 2025, S. Perez vs. G. Ortona.

18. Confirmation of School and Centre Administrators

Following a written performance appraisal and having been evaluated as satisfactory, the following administrators will be confirmed in their assignments:

- Jennifer Harriet, Principal, F.A.C.E. School
- Holly Kusiewicz, Principal, St. Gabriel School
- Andrew Mangal, Principal, St. Monica School
- Gregory Watson, Principal, John Grant High School
- Angela Antonacci, Vice-Principal, John Grant and L.I.N.K.S. High Schools
- Amanda Foster, Vice-Principal, Marymount Academy
- Lise Khun, Vice-Principal, James Lyng High School
- Danny Midlash, Vice-Principal, Rosemount Technology Centre
- Chrisoula Pappas, Vice-Principal, Westmount Park School

19. Director General's Reporting – As per By-Law No. 10 – Delegation of Powers

This item was presented by Mr. Nick Katalifos, Director General, for information.

20. Committee Reports

20.1 ACSES (Advisory Committee on Special Education Services)

Item presented by the Parent Commissioner of the Committee, Ms. Julie Kristof:

- \triangleright The last meeting of the year took place on June 2nd;
- The Committee has worked hard alongside the Student Services Department to develop tool kits and resource materials about items of concern, such as sexting and how parents can be active partners in IEP development and implementation, among many others. The Committee will continue to work on methods where parents can have ways to set expectations around rehab assessments and services at the Board;
- ➤ Ms. Kristoff attended the John Grant graduation on May 29th. It was heartwarming to see young people who do not necessarily follow an academic path also be honored with this kind of milestone event:
- ACSES is losing two extraordinary parent advocates, Ms. Rosemary Federico who chaired the Committee and Katherine Korakakis who has been an advocate for our students with different needs for many years. The Committee is also saying goodbye to Gail Berstein who is retiring. Thank you all for your service and the difference you have made in our community.

20.2 Transportation and Safety Advisory Committee

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

- ➤ The last meeting of the year was held on June 12th;
- ➤ The Committee discussed the ongoing request from the parents of Rosemount High School that reside in R.D.P to obtain dedicated city buses for students attending Rosemount High School. A letter has been written and approved, and will be sent shortly to the borough councillor on the matter;

- At the beginning of the school year, Mesure 30400 in the amount of \$13,000 was removed. However, the Government decided to reinstate it in the amount of \$5,000;
- The Committee also discussed the fact that since Lion Electric has had financial difficulties, they are unable to provide all the electric vehicles that will be needed. All school buses after 12 years must be retired and replaced by electric vehicles. At this moment, Lion Electric is unable to build the necessary buses nor provide the services that are required and this is of great concern to parents, students and Commissioners;
- ➤ The Committee is still projecting a deficit of \$42,000 in the transportation budget for this year. The budget for 2025-2026 has not yet been sent by the Ministère;
- Also discussed was a noticeable increase in the registration of special needs students, predicting a need for more Berlins which are the special types of transport for students with special needs. As we have not yet received the budget for the next school year, we cannot provide further details as to how many more vehicles are needed and how many more can be afforded. This is of great concern, especially the effect it could have on the transport needs for our most vulnerable students going into the next academic year.

20.3 EMSBPC (English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee)

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Merika Ramundo:

- ➤ The last meeting was held on June 5th at St. Pius Culinary School. A big thank you to everyone at St. Pius for welcoming the EMSBPC;
- An item that was discussed was climate change. Heatwaves, extended snowstorms, flooding, power outages and poor air quality as a result of events like wildfires pose risks to students and staff. Extreme weather is already affecting school communities, the safety and wellbeing of students and staff, and the continuity of education is a top priority. Unlike private schools and newer public schools, many public schools do not have fallback options such as virtual learning or temporary locations. The EMSBPC has begun to discuss ways to strengthen the call for better response plans around severe weather events;
- > Over the course of the past year and a half, three letters have been written and sent to the Administration regarding the board-wide use of EMSB email service accounts by EMSB Governing Boards. No formal written response was given and as a result the EMSBPC moved to send an inquiry to the Ministère de l'Éducation, as an interpretation of the Education Act is required for clarity. The Committee received word from a representative at the Ministère that nowhere in the Act does it state that a Governing Board cannot use an email account as a channel to communicate with its constituencies. Open communication between Governing Boards, administration and parents that they serve is especially critical during turbulent times. Strong communication builds strong communities and ensures that parents can be informed, engaged and better advocates for their schools and the School Board as a whole. The EMSBPC resolved to move the issue forward to this table. Parent Commissioners look forward to working with fellow Commissioners and Administration on this matter;
- ➤ Ms. Ramundo thanked EMSB parent delegates, alternates, members of the Executive Committee, Senior Administration and Brigida Sellato for their participation in this year's PC activities. Your dedication to our schools and the EMSB as a whole is to be commended on behalf of the four Parent Commissioners. Ms. Ramundo thanked the Commissioners for their unwavering commitment to the community and wished all staff, teachers, principals and vice-principals a happy, healthy sun-filled summer.

20.4 Governance and Ethics Committee

Item presented by Ms. Maria Corsi on behalf of the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Mario Pietrangelo:

- \triangleright The last meeting was held on May 28^{th} ;
- > The Committee approved the requests from the Ethics Commissioner to extend the deadline to submit the report on an active ethics complaint;

- As seen in this meeting, two ethics reports were received by the Ethics Commissioner that conclude two ethics complaints;
- ➤ The Government has decided to appeal Bill 40 decision to the Supreme Court of Canada, which has not yet been accepted for a hearing by the court;
- ➤ The revised By-Laws are in the last phase of compilation and vetting by legal advisors and the Legal Department. This is the last step before coming before the Committee for consideration and eventually to Council for general consultation next fall.

20.5 Audit Committee

Item presented by the Chair of the Committee, Ms. Paula Kilian:

> There has been no meeting since the last report. The next meeting is likely to be held next October.

20.6 Human Resources Committee

➤ No report

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

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

There has been no meeting since the last report. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27th.

20.8 EMSAC (English Montreal Student Advisory Committee)

Item presented by the Chair of the Board, Mr. Joe Ortona:

The next meeting will be held in the new school year.

21. Commissioners' Report

Item presented by Commissioner, Mr. James Kromida:

- > Mr. Kromida attended the LaurenHill Academy graduation, it was a wonderful event;
- ➤ The Governing Board at Cedarcrest advised Mr. Kromida about the ongoing safety issue around the school and Mr. Kromida directed the issue to City Hall. The city council looked at it and turned it down. The solution to this issue would be to install temporary speed bumps. However, it was turned down due to budgetary reasons. This is unacceptable and has brought frustration to many parents, teachers and the community. A follow-up on the issue will be brought to the next meeting in the new school year.

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Sharon Nelson:

- Ms. Nelson took the opportunity to congratulate all the graduating students in Ward 5 on their graduation. She had the pleasure of attending the graduation ceremonies at Royal Vale Elementary and High Schools. A special shout out to the students at Focus High School in terms of their accomplishments, and having their families there to congratulate them was a great event;
- ➤ On Father's Day, June 15th, thanks to music teacher Mr. Nick Batzios at Willingdon School, the Willingdon Choir had the great privilege of singing the national anthem at the Montreal Grand Prix. It was a special and very memorable day;
- Ms. Nelson will also be attending the graduations of Willingdon, Outreach and St. Monica;
- At the last Governing Board meeting at St. Monica on June 9th, Councillor Despina Sourias presented some good news regarding the ongoing issue of the bike path on Terrebonne Street.

Bollards were put in place to help the students get off the bus and safely get into the school. Ms. Nelson thanked Ms. Sourias and the Mayor, Ms. Katahwa, for the work that they are doing to help solve the issue.

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Merika Ramundo:

> During the month of May, four EMSB Schools (Cedarcrest, Roslyn, Edinburgh and Honoré Mercier) had the opportunity to host renowned singer-songwriter, motivational speaker Michelle Treacy and her team. She is from No Time for That – Anti-Bullying Society, one of Canada's leading anti-bullying charities with a mission to empower youth and educators to foster kind, empathetic and inclusive school communities. A music teacher from Honoré Mercier School who was really impacted by the visit posted the following on social media: Michelle's message was more than just a presentation. It was a profound reminder of the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of standing up for oneself and others. Through personal storytelling and music, she shared a message of hope, empowerment and self-worth that resonated deeply with our students. This event reinforced the importance of open discussions around bullying, kindness and the strength we all have to make a difference. We encourage parents to continue this important conversation at home and ask your children about what they heard, how they felt, and what they learned together as a united school and parent community. We can continue to promote empathy, courage and respect in all areas of our children's lives. A big thank you to EMSBPC's vice-chair, Ms. Katherina Korakakis, for bringing this opportunity to PC members and to the principals and staff at Cedarcrest, Roslyn, Edinburgh and Honoré Mercier for organizing this great initiative. They will be back next year!

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Maria Corsi:

- Ms. Corsi began by reading the following statement that was adopted by F.A.C.E. Governing Board: As the Governing Board of F.A.C.E., our top priority is to preserve the unique and integral nature of F.A.C.E. School's educational project. While the elementary school students are planning to relocate this fall, we recognize that a prolonged or permanent separation of the elementary and high school programs would have a severely detrimental impact on the continuity and spirit of the fine arts curriculum. To that end, we are committed to pursuing every opportunity to review and revise the plans for renovating the heritage building. Our goal is to swiftly reunite our elementary and secondary students in this building. Our strong preference is for the renovations to be conducted in a phased approach allowing the high school students to remain on site while renovations are underway. This would enable the elementary and high school students to continue coming together to utilize the shared resources, such as the auditorium, and preserve the vital connection between the two levels of education. Ultimately, our focus is on safeguarding the integrity of F.A.C.E.'s unique fine arts educational model which is deeply dependent on the collaborative relationship between the elementary and high school components. F.A.C.E. Governing Board has been a strong advocate for the community and continues to support the parents in transition;
- > F.A.C.E. School will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in the upcoming academic year, a series of commemorative events will be taking place throughout the 2025-2026 school year;
- Also, at F.A.C.E. School on May 8th, an electrifying atmosphere filled the school yard as all the students from kindergarten to Grade 11, both EMSB and CSSDM, gathered to sing with one voice *Toune d'automne* by Les Cowboys Fringants. This gathering marked a historic moment for the students as it was the first time in 50 years that everyone came to sing as one;
- ➤ On May 29th, Ms. Corsi attended the graduation ceremony at Rosemount High School. It was a beautiful ceremony featuring a musical performance by the Symphonic Winds;
- ➤ On June 5th, Ms. Corsi attended the Vernissage event at Dalkeith Elementary School. It was a huge success, where all students participated in showcasing their artwork. There were paintings, drawings, a knitting club, written work, digital books, etc. All the classes came together and published a book. It was a beautiful event, hats off to all the teachers for their hard work, who really led the children into creating wonderful works of art;
- ➤ On June 13th, Ms. Corsi attended the Grade 6 graduation ceremony at Edward Murphy Elementary School. The two student ambassadors gave speeches, one in French and one in English. They

- showed such depth and maturity, and their delivery was flawless which is a testament to the high quality of French immersion program and the English language arts instruction. Each student was presented with an additional certificate showing their unique quality they possess. It was beautiful to see how every student was appreciated;
- Also on June 13th, Ms. Corsi attended the Secondary 5 F.A.C.E. graduation. Two touching traditions to highlight were the moment when a small group of kindergarten students came on stage to give an Apple Award to all the Secondary 5 students who had been at F.A.C.E. from kindergarten to Secondary 5. The second highlight was a final performance by the graduating class of 2025 who sang a collection of songs in perfect harmony;
- ➤ On June 16th, Ms. Corsi attended the Grade 6 graduation ceremony at Pierre Elliot Trudeau Elementary School. The parents went above and beyond to transform the second half of the gym into an elegantly arranged reception providing a special place to celebrate the graduates. The students made speeches that expressed their appreciation for their teachers. It was a heartwarming and memorable event;
- ➤ On June 19th, Ms. Corsi will be attending the F.A.C.E. Grade 6 graduation;
- Ms. Corsi touched upon a safety issue at Bancroft School on St. Urbain Street at the corner of Mont-Royal. The street is very narrow and presents a real danger for small elementary students. The Governing Board has been advocating with the borough council and met on May 29th to discuss measures that could be undertaken to ensure the safety of the students. However, nothing has been done so far.

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Maria Corsi, on behalf of Commissioner, Mr. Mario Pietrangelo:

A significant chapter in the history of Pierre de Coubertin Elementary School is closing, Principal Ms. Ida Pisano is retiring. She spent 11 years of her remarkable 35 years at PDC. On this day, the entire student body, teachers, staff and some parents surprised Ms. Pisano with an assembly during which she was showered with love, well wishes and special gifts handmade by the students including cards, poems, special drawings and performances. Mr. Pietrangelo wanted to express his wishes to Ms. Pisano: Your dedication to our schools has been unparalleled. May your retirement be as remarkable and rewarding as the impact you have had on the children. It has been an honor working with you. Thank you for your dedicated service and leadership to our school community. Enjoy this new chapter in your life, you have earned it.

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Paula Kilian:

- A former parent from Dunrae Gardens and Westmount High School has generously donated an acoustic guitar to Perspectives High School and will be dropped off before school closes for the summer so it will be on hand for the next school year;
- ➤ Sinclair Laird has one of the best social media pages. Please follow them on Facebook. One post had the Grade 6 students talking about what they are most excited about after graduation. Another post had several students from each grade explaining what they learned this year. Ms. Kilian enjoys viewing the very positive posts every day.
- Ms. Kilian will be attending the Sinclair Laird Grade 6 graduation ceremony;
- ➤ Ms. Kilian attended the music concert on May 29th at Carlyle Elementary School, the theme was Music through the decades;
- > On June 5th at Carlyle Elementary School was Portfolio Night where families admired the students' artwork;
- ➤ The Grade 4 students at Carlyle Elementary School received a 2-day CPR course and are now certified for 2 years;
- ➤ The Carlyle Choir, under the direction of Ms. Christine, were invited to perform at the Town of Mont-Royal Town Hall for a special event for the senior citizens of the town;
- ➤ Ms. Kilian attended the 105th anniversary of Carlyle Elementary School;
- ➤ Ms. Kilian attended the graduation ceremony at Dunrae Gardens;
- This year's music concert at Dunrae Gardens took place on June 5th under the direction of

- M^{me} Noemi, with the theme of Canadian music;
- Also at Dunrae Gardens on June 5th, art teacher Mr. Mike organized his annual vernissage fundraiser. This year's proceeds will be used to purchase the standing art boards that are usually borrowed from LaurenHill;
- ➤ On June 11th was the annual Fun Fair, organized and sponsored by the Dunrae Gardens Family Association. It was over the top this year with bouncy castles, bumper cars and a dunk tank;
- ➤ On June 17th, Dunrae Gardens held its inaugural Sustainability Fair. The winning project showed how intelligent solar panels could use AI to track sun in order to maximize clean energy power. Each student on the winning team received a \$200 prize;
- ➤ Ms. Kilian received an email from parents advocating for increased funding to the enrichment program rather than cuts;
- ➤ The Kennedy Knights boys basketball team at John F. Kennedy High School won the RSEQD4 Championship;
- Alexia, a senior student at JFK High School, won the Lieutenant Governor's Award that recognizes her volunteerism in the community;
- ➤ The Film Club at JFK High School submitted a film to the Youth Fusion Film Festival. For the third year in a row, they won best for overall performance. They were nominated for best film and came in fourth place;
- ➤ John F. Kennedy High School implemented an innovative program to boost enrollment. Grade 5 and 6 students from Dalkeith, Pierre Elliot Trudeau, Dante and our Lady of Pompeii were brought by school bus on a JFK ped day for an amazing race-type competition. It was a great success, about 200 students were in attendance;
- ➤ The John F. Kennedy High School graduation will take place tomorrow, June 18th.

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Chelsea Craig:

- ➤ On May 22nd, Coronation Elementary School had their annual talent show and raised over \$1,700 for Alzheimer's. The school chooses a different cause each year. This was their cause this year. It really speaks to Coronation being such a community school. Congratulations to all the students;
- ➤ Ms. Craig attended the Marymount Academy graduation, which was a great event to be a part of;
- In celebration of Filipino Heritage Month, Ms. Craig attended the flag raising ceremony at the Filipino Association as well as at the Côte Saint-Luc City Hall;
- ➤ Ms. Craig will be attending the Coronation Grade 6 graduation;
- ➤ Ms. Craig alongside Ms. Corsi will be planning an event with the Montreal Council of Women to be held on September 11th at the EMSB Head Office. The event will be called Education under Pressure, and we hope to see everyone there;

Item presented by Commissioner, Ms. Jessica Houde-Woytiuk:

- ➤ On behalf of the parents of the high schools' students, Ms. Houde-Woytiuk thanked all the high school staff and support staff as we close the 2024-2025 school year;
- Ms. Houde-Woytiuk had the opportunity to attend the Fondation Aléo's distribution of bursaries for Quebec accomplished student athletes. This year, two EMSB high school students were awarded a combined amount of \$5,500. Congratulations to Hyeonjin Kim from Marymount Academy in the sport of Judo who was supported by Webster, and Annabelle Hillier from Royal West Academy in the sport of Water Polo who was supported by Cascade;
- ➤ Congratulations to the entire EMSB class of 2025;

Item presented by Parent Commissioner, Ms. Jennifer Rutt:

➤ Ms. Rutt congratulated the graduating class of James Lyng High School.

22.	Report of the Executive Committee Meeting held on May 27, 2025
	 CGTSIM – Group Purchasing Program for Tenders from March 1, 2026 to November 30, 2027 Awarding of Contract – PS24-1048P – Open Contract (Contrat à exécution sur demande) for General Contractors
23.	Other Business
	None.
24.	<u>Adjournment</u>
	IT WAS MOVED BY MS. CHELSEA CRAIG AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:15 p.m.
	Vote: 12-0-0, Adopted Resolution # 25-06-17-24
	Signed in Montreal,
	Mr. Joe Ortona, Chair Me Nathalie Lauzière, Secretary General