

Approved minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Central Québec School Board held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 7 p.m. by videoconference on the TEAMS platform.

Present:	Linda Bechtiger	Parent Commissioner
	Debbie Cornforth	Commissioner
	David Eden	Commissioner
	Debbie Ford-Caron	Commissioner
	Karine Gauthier	Commissioner
	André Gosselin	Commissioner
	Jason Kilganan	Parent Commissioner
	Stephane Lagacé	Director General
	Cameron Lavallee	Commissioner
	Ian O’Gallagher	Vice-chairman
	Shirley Picknell	Commissioner
	KayLee Richardson	Parent Commissioner
	Jean Robert	Chairman
	Jo-Ann Toulouse	Commissioner
	Alexandra Tremblay-Leclerc	Parent Commissioner
	Jo Visser	Commissioner
Absent:	Chantal Guay	Commissioner
In Attendance:	Julien Duchamp	Director of Educational Services
	Leslie Dussault-Marcoux	Recording Secretary
	Vincent Laliberté	Secretary General
	Yves Lambert	CQTA President
	Anissa Landry	Director of Financial Services
	Benoit Sévigny	Director of Buildings and Equipment, Information Technology and Purchasing
	Julie Simard	Director of Human Resources

26-01.01 Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

26-01.02 Native Land Recognition Statement

We would like to begin by acknowledging, honouring, and paying respect to our First Nations Communities; the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we gather for this event today.

26-01.03 Approval of the Agenda

It was MOVED by D. Ford-Caron, SECONDED by D. Eden and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

26-01.04 **Public Question Period**

There were no questions.

26-01.05 **Question Period for Students**

No students were present.

26-01.06 **Correspondence from Students**

No correspondence was received.

26-01.07 **Complaints**

No complaints were received.

26-01.08 **Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on December 10, 2025**

It was MOVED by D. Cornforth, SECONDED by A. Gosselin and RESOLVED; THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, be accepted with the following change to 25-12.14 e) Audit Committee: from “(...) the unaudited financial statements were submitted to the ministry, (...)” to “(...) the audited financial statements were submitted to the ministry, (...)”.

Commissioners D. Eden, C. Lavallee and J. Visser abstained from voting.

26-01.09 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

No business arose from the minutes.

26-01.10 **Report from the Chairman**

The Chairman provided a report to the Commissioners on the following items:

- New Year Greetings
- Appointment to the Order of Canada

a) Congratulations to Jean Robert’s Appointment to the Order of Canada

It was MOVED by D. Ford-Caron, SECONDED by all commissioners present, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the Appointment of Mr. Jean Robert, Chairman of the Council of Commissioners, to the Order of Canada be recognized as a great honour for the Central Québec School Board and a testament to his years of service for the English community, his dedication to the students and his involvement in the future of education.

26-01.11

General Directorate's Report

The Director General formally addressed the Council and provided a report on the following items:

a) Update from Educational Services

J. Duchamp reported on the following topics:

- a CQSB guide for best practices regarding the integration and accompaniment of indigenous students
- professional development sessions at Jimmy Sandy Memorial School for Special Education Technicians
- full-day training on Professional Learning Communities as part of the mentorship program

b) Update from Buildings & Equipment and IT

B. Sévigny provided an update on the Uni-T Project, as work has begun on the site of the new high school including decontamination and tree cutting.

c) Update from Human Resources

The Talent Acquisition Advisor attends at least one job fair per month. Since July 1, 2025, six requests for exemptions concerning the hiring freeze have been submitted and approved. At the moment, CQSB is meeting the equivalent full-time target requested by the MEQ.

d) Update from the General Directorate

A meeting of the Director General's table has taken place on January 15 and 16 where the topics included: professional development on artificial intelligence, management of Community Learning Centres and Concordia research projects on work-transition pathways.

The *ministère de l'Éducation* now requests that all school boards and *centres de services scolaires* participate in mutualization projects for the next school year.

26-01.12

Strategic Planning

S. Lagacé, in collaboration with J. Duchamp and J. Simard, presented a report on the Strategic Planning Updates for the months of November and December.

26-01.13

New Business

a) Central Québec School Board Intervention in the English Montreal School Board Challenge to Bill 94

WHEREAS Bill 94 restructures Quebec's public education system, expands state laicity requirements, restricts religious accommodations, and centralizes ministerial authority;

WHEREAS these measures significantly affect English-language school boards and limit their ability to manage and control educational institutions as protected under section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;

WHEREAS the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) has agreed to act as plaintiff in a legal challenge to Bill 94, recognizing the long-term risks to minority-language governance;

WHEREAS the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) recommends that English-language school boards intervene in the EMSB's application;

WHEREAS the proposed financial contribution for the Central Québec School Board (CQSB), based on enrolment, is seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500);

WHEREAS the QESBA has requested that each board provide its decision by January 30, 2026.

It was MOVED by I. O'Gallagher, SECONDED by D. Ford-Caron, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the Central Québec School Board supports the English Montreal School Board's legal challenge to Bill 94; and

THAT the CQSB agrees to intervene in the EMSB's legal challenge to Bill 94; and

THAT the CQSB approves the financial contribution of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500).

b) Authorization to Sign the Work Execution Agreement for the Development of an Active Mobility Passage

WHEREAS the Central Québec School Board (CQSB) is constructing a new high school identified under the temporary name *Avenue Wolfe High School*, in Québec City;

WHEREAS the Project includes the construction of sports fields, including a football field and a synthetic soccer field, which will be subject to a shared-use agreement between the CQSB and the *Ville de Québec* (hereinafter "the City");

WHEREAS to allow the Project to proceed, the City is transferring, free of charge, a portion of Saint-Denys Park to the CQSB;

26-01.13

New Business (continued)

- b) Authorization to Sign the Work Execution Agreement for the Development of an Active Mobility Passage (continued)

WHEREAS the City's planning for the sector provides for the development of a mobility corridor crossing the Plateau district (Sainte-Foy), between Highways Henri-IV and Robert-Bourassa;

WHEREAS it has been agreed between the CQSB and the City that an active mobility passage must be developed on the Project site to connect Avenue Wolfe to Saint-Denys Park;

WHEREAS a ten-metre-wide public passage and development servitude will be granted to the City to allow it to develop the active mobility passage, maintain it, and ensure free circulation of pedestrians and cyclists at all times;

WHEREAS the servitude will be granted to the City prior to the execution of the development work for the active mobility passage;

WHEREAS the work required for the Project will take place on land owned by the CQSB as well as within the limits of the servitude;

It was MOVED by C. Lavallee, SECONDED by S. Picknell, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT Jean Robert, Chair of the Council of Commissioners, and Stéphane Lagacé, Director General, be authorized to sign the Work Execution Agreement for the Development of an Active Mobility Passage on behalf of the Central Québec School Board.

26-01.14

Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee

No meeting was held.

- b) Parents' Committee

No meeting was held.

- c) Special Needs Advisory Committee

No meeting was held.

- d) Transport Advisory Committee

No meeting was held.

26-01.14 **Committee Reports (continued)**

e) Audit Committee

No meeting was held.

f) Evaluation of the Director General

No meeting was held.

g) Ethics and Governance Committee

No meeting was held.

h) Human Resources Committee

No meeting was held.

i) Resource Allocation Committee

No meeting was held.

26-01.15 **Québec English School Boards Association**

a) Report from the Board of Directors

No report was made since the next meeting is held on February 13, 2026.

b) Report from Committees

No report was made.

26-01.16 **Next meeting**

The next regular meeting will be held on February 25, 2026.

26-01.17 **Question period**

a) Public

There were no questions.

b) Commissioners

There were no questions.

26-01.18 **In-camera session**

No in-camera session was held.

26-01.19 **Adjournment**

The meeting was ADJOURNED at 7:44 p.m. on a motion by J. Kilganan.

Vincent Laliberté
Secretary General

Jean Robert
Chairman

Approved on February 25, 2026.