COMMISSION SCOLAIRE CENTRAL QUÉBEC
CENTRAL QUÉBEC SCHOOL BOARD
SINCE DEPUIS 1998

Approved minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners of the Central Québec School Board held on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 7 p.m., at the Board Office, 2046, chemin Saint-Louis, Québec (Québec) G1T 1P4 and by videoconference on the TEAMS platform.

Present:	Linda Bechtiger	Parent Commissioner
	Debbie Cornforth	Commissioner
	Debbie Ford-Caron	Commissioner
	Karine Gauthier	Commissioner
	André Gosselin	Commissioner
	Chantal Guay	Commissioner
	Stephane Lagacé	Director General
	Cameron Lavallee	Commissioner
	Ian O'Gallagher	Vice-chairman
	Shirley Picknell	Commissioner
	KayLee Richardson	Parent Commissioner
	Jean Robert	Chairman
	Alexandra Tremblay-Leclerc	Parent Commissioner (by TEAMS)
	Jo-Ann Toulouse	Commissioner (by TEAMS)
Absent:	David Eden	Commissioner
	Jason Kilganan	Parent Commissioner
	Jo Visser	Commissioner
In Attendance:	Jerome Albert	Governing Board Chair of RRES
	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
	Nancy L'Heureux	Assistant Director General
	Amélie Racine	Parents' Committee Representative for RRES
	Benoit Sévigny	Director of Buildings and Equipment, IT and Purchasing
	Julie Simard	Director of Human Resources

26-05.01 **Call to Order**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

26-05.02 **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.

26-05.03 **Approval of the Agenda**

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

The proposed modified agenda was presented by V. Laliberté.

26-05.04 **Public Question Period**

J. Albert, Chair of the Riverside Regional Elementary School Governing Board, and A. Racine, Parent Representative for Riverside Regional Elementary School on the Parents' Committee, attended the meeting in person to address the changes made to the Organizational Chart, as deposited during the last Council of Commissioners' meeting held in April 2026.

J. Albert shared the reality of military families, where children are in dire need of stability at school during the deployment of a parent. As the Governing Board Chair, he expressed the concerns rising among the RRES parents: the potential hindrance to the school's management, considering the current administration's appreciation.

A. Racine spoke on behalf of many parents and staff members from RRES, relaying their fear that this change in organization would echo the dissatisfaction from the past merge of the Riverside Regional Schools. Another worry was that this new structure would not sufficiently support the personnel of both schools and their students, especially those with special needs. The importance of mental health, for both staff and students, was among the priorities that came from the feedback of the consultation.

26-05.05 **Question Period for Students**

No students were present.

26-05.06 **Correspondence from Students**

No correspondence was received.

26-05.07 **Complaints**

No complaints were received.

26-05.08 **Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on April 22, 2026**

It was MOVED by S. Picknell, SECONDED by C. Guay and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council of Commissioners held on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, be accepted as presented.

26-05.09 **Business Arising from the Minutes**

No business arose from the minutes.

26-05.10 **Report from the Chairman**

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

- Shawinigan High School—100th Anniversary
- Meetings with the Director General
- Attending the QESBA Spring Conference

26-05.11 **General Directorate's Report**

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

a) Update from Buildings & Equipment, Information Technology and Purchasing

The Information Technology Department has been working hard over the past months on the school board's new Intranet, which should be launched by the end of May.

b) Update from Human Resources

The Human Resources team was happy to announce the promotion of Danielle MacKenzie, from Administration Technician in Payroll to Personnel Management Consultant—Payroll and Employee Benefits.

Other news included the close-to-completion of the *Déclaration annuelle de renseignements* (DAR) for *Retraite Québec*, the preparation of the 2026–2027 staffing plan and the HR team's support to administrators with the presentation of data from the Learning Bar Staff Survey, which was completed by every school and department of the Board Office.

c) Update from Secretary General

From April 29th to May 1st, the Secretary General attended a conference held by the *Association Québécoise des cadres scolaires* (AQCS) on the following topics:

- the tendency to rely on AI-generated information, leading to an increase in rapidly produced complaints and formal requests;
- the system capacity to meet student needs;
- liability and insurance considerations;
- provincial initiatives related to the digitization of student records.

The Management Advisory Committee met on May 8th to discuss the new organizational chart and three policies in consultation: the *Transportation Policy*, the *Policy on Information Security* and the *Policy on a Public Body collecting Information through Technological Means*.

26-05.11 **General Directorate's Report (continued)**

d) Update from General Directorate

The Director General reported on the various meetings and events he attended:

- *Association des directions générales scolaires du Québec* (ADGSQ) — April 29th and 30th;
- Riverside Regional High School and members of the Uni.T. project "graduation" of a two-year leadership development program with LCEEQ — April 30th;
- 100th anniversary celebration of Shawinigan High School — May 1st;
- Board Office Staff Meeting — May 12th;
- First of two strategic planning days for School Board administrators — May 19th.

Other updates included the School Transportation Services and the challenges from the ongoing tramway construction as it impacts the transportation schedules, and the latest news in the Uni.T. project with the commencement of the foundation work and the preparation of a get-together where employees from the three high schools in the Québec region are invited to connect over a barbecue at a local community centre.

Commissioner J. Kilganan had a question regarding the emails sent to parents about the potential removal of transportation services for the 2026–2027 school year. The Assistant Director General, N. L'Heureux, reassured the Council that the Transport Advisory Committee would soon review the addition of two buses to the hired contractors. Commissioner J. Kilganan was concerned with the way this was communicated, fearing the weight of the message might not have been calculated and that sharing such alarming news did more harm than good.

26-05.12 **Strategic Planning**

It was decided to move Agenda Item *13.c) Amendment to the Organizational Chart* before the Strategic Planning, to accommodate the representatives from RRES and respect the time they took travelling from the Saguenay region to Québec City, specifically for this matter.

The updates for the months of March and April followed and the numbering of the Agenda Items resumed after the switch.

26-05.13 **New Business**

a) Amendment to the Organizational Chart (adoption)

WHEREAS at the April 22, 2026, meeting of the Council of Commissioners, a modified Organizational Chart was deposited for consultation purposes;

WHEREAS the document was sent to the Association of Administrators of English Schools of Québec (AAESQ) and to the Central Québec local chapter of the *Association québécoise des cadres scolaires (AQCS)* for consultation;

WHEREAS, the Governing Boards of Riverside High School and Riverside Elementary School were consulted, given that the proposed modifications to the Organizational Chart will have a direct impact on the region;

WHEREAS the feedback received by both groups was presented to the Council on May 22, 2026;

Commissioner S. Picknell, RRES representatives J. Albert and A. Racine left at 8:06 p.m.

It was MOVED by I. O'Gallagher, SECONDED by S. Picknell, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the revised Organizational Chart of the Central Québec School Board be accepted as presented.

b) Amendment to the Deeds of Establishment (deposit)

The *Revised Deeds of Establishment* has been received for consultation purposes. The final document will be presented for adoption at the June 17, 2026, meeting of the Council of Commissioners.

c) By-Law regarding the Day, Time and Place of Regular Meetings 2026–2027 (adoption)

WHEREAS section 162 of the Education Act indicates that the Council of Commissioners must adopt a by-law concerning the day, time and place of its regular meetings;

WHEREAS section 392 of the Education Act stipulates that public notice must be given before the adoption of a by-law;

It was MOVED by C. Guay, SECONDED by D. Ford-Caron, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT pursuant to section 162 of the Education Act, the 2026–2027 school year regular meetings of the Council of Commissioners be held at 7 p.m. at the Board Office or online via the TEAMS platform on the dates indicated below:

- Friday, September 11, 2026 (in-person)
- Wednesday, October 7, 2026 (hybrid)
- Wednesday, November 4, 2026 (hybrid)
- Wednesday, December 9, 2026 (online)
- Wednesday, January 20, 2027 (online)

26-05.13 **New Business (continued)**

c) By-Law regarding the Day, Time and Place of Regular Meetings 2026–2027 (adoption) (continued)

- Wednesday, February 24, 2027 (hybrid)
- Wednesday, March 24, 2027 (hybrid)
- Wednesday, April 21, 2027 (hybrid)
- Friday, May 28, 2027 (in-person)
- Wednesday, June 16, 2027 (hybrid)

d) Québec High School Sale with the *Ville de Québec* (adoption)

WHEREAS the *Ville de Québec* wishes to acquire an immovable property owned by the Central Québec School Board as part of the proposed tramway project under Phase 1 of the CITÉ Plan;

WHEREAS the immovable property is known and designated as follows:

DESIGNATION

1. An immovable known and designated as being Lot number SIX MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FOUR (6 700 854) of the Cadastre of Québec, Registration Division of Québec;

2. An immovable known and designated as being Lot number SIX MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE (6 700 855) of the Cadastre of Québec, Registration Division of Québec;

Without any buildings constructed thereon;

WHEREAS the sale price is set at sixteen thousand dollars ($16,000), payable in full upon the signing of the notarial deed of sale, as final and definitive payment for the transfer of ownership;

WHEREAS the sale shall be made without legal warranty, at the risks and perils of the *Ville de Québec*;

It was MOVED by K. Richardson, SECONDED by J. Kilganan, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the Council of Commissioners of the Central Québec School Board mandates the Director General, Mr. Stéphane Lagacé, to sign, on behalf of the School Board, the notarize Deed of Sale and all other necessary documents for the above-mentioned immovable property to the *Ville de Québec*.

26-05.13 **<u>New Business</u>** <u>(continued)</u>

e) <u>Québec High School Servitude with *Hydro-Québec* (adoption)</u>

WHEREAS the Central Québec School Board is the owner of the property known and designated under number 6 700 853 in the Québec Cadastre, jurisdiction of Québec;

WHEREAS the *Ville de Québec* has requested that the CQSB grant to *Hydro-Québec* a notarized deed of servitude for a perpetual real servitude on a parcel of land approximately 3.8 square metres in area, identified as parcel 3;

WHEREAS this servitude agreement is a requirement from the *Ville de Québec* as part of their tramway project under Phase 1 of the CITÉ Plan;

WHEREAS it is necessary to authorize the Director General, Mr. Stéphane Lagacé, to sign the servitude agreement on behalf of the CQSB;

It was MOVED by K. Gauthier, SECONDED by A. Gosselin, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the Central Québec School Board enter into a notarized Deed of Servitude for a perpetual real servitude with *Hydro-Québec* totalling approximately 3.8 m²; and

THAT the Director General be authorized to sign the notarized Deed of Servitude, the Annex and all other required documents on behalf of the School Board.

f) <u>Québec High School Servitude with *Énergir* (adoption)</u>

WHEREAS the Central Québec School Board is the owner of the property known and designated under number 6 700 853 in the Québec Cadastre, jurisdiction of Québec;

WHEREAS *Énergir* has requested that the CQSB grant a servitude agreement consisting of:

—a perpetual real and servitude on a strip of land approximately 23.6 square metres in area, represented as parcel 1; and

—a temporary real servitude for a period of three (3) years on a strip of land approximately 14.5 square metres in area, represented as parcel 2;

WHEREAS the purpose of these servitudes is to allow *Énergir* to install, operate, maintain, repair, and replace natural gas distribution infrastructure;

WHEREAS it is necessary to authorize the Director General, Mr. Stéphane Lagacé, to sign the servitude agreements on behalf of the Central Québec School Board;

26-05.13 **<u>New Business</u>** <u>(continued)</u>

f) <u>Québec High School Servitude with *Énergir* (adoption)</u> <u>(continued)</u>

It was MOVED by K. Richardson, SECONDED by A. Gosselin, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the Central Québec School Board enter into a notarized Deed of Servitude with *Énergir*, including both a perpetual real servitude and a temporary real servitude of three (3) years; and

THAT the Director General, Mr. Stéphane Lagacé, be authorized to sign the perpetual real and notarized servitude, the notarized temporary real servitude, and all other documents required for the servitude on behalf of the School Board.

g) <u>Purchase of Land in Schefferville</u>

WHEREAS the school board intends to acquire a parcel of land from the *Ville de Schefferville* for the purpose of constructing residential housing for its staff;

WHEREAS the land is identified as part of lot 6 728 521, located on Star Creek and Eclipse streets in Schefferville, with an approximate area of 5,212.2 square metres;

WHEREAS the agreed purchase price for the land is $120,000, with an additional contribution of $140,000 required for the extension of municipal water and sewer services;

WHEREAS the project includes the construction of residential housing units intended to accommodate school staff;

WHEREAS it is necessary to authorize a representative to sign the promise to purchase and any related documents;

It was MOVED by I. O'Gallagher, SECONDED by C. Lavallee, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT the Director General be, and is hereby, authorized to sign, for and on behalf of the school board, the promise to purchase for the acquisition of the above-mentioned land from the *Ville de Schefferville*;

THAT the Director General be further authorized to sign any and all documents required to give full effect to the transaction;

THAT this authorization shall remain in full force and effect until the completion of the transaction.

26-05.15 **Committee Reports**

a) Executive Committee

No meeting was held.

b) Parents' Committee

A meeting was held on April 27, 2026.

c) Special Needs Advisory Committee

No meeting was held.

d) Transport Advisory Committee

No meeting was held.

e) Audit Committee

No meeting was held but an update was given on the March 31st extra audit: although the exemption request for this additional mandate was denied, the excellent work from A. Landry, Director of Financial Services, and her team, allowed for the school board to submit the financial statements on May 14th.

f) Evaluation of the Director General

No meeting was held.

g) Ethics and Governance Committee

A meeting was held on May 6, 2026. The topics discussed included: Surveys from QESBA—or other outside organizations—and the decision process for their distribution, as well as the reviewing of CQSB policies, across all departments, and prioritizing documents that have not been updated in a decade. The Secretary General will supervise the review of policies and assist each department in submitting the documents for consultation and, later, for adoption, by the Council of Commissioners.

h) Human Resources Committee

No meeting was held.

i) Resource Allocation Committee

No meeting was held.

26-05.16 **Québec English School Boards Association**

a) Report from the Board of Directors

A report was submitted via email by Commissioner D. Ford-Caron prior to the meeting, containing the following items:

- Updates on Bill 1, Bill 94, Bill 96 and Bill 101
- QESBA Spring Conference Recap
- Special General Meeting for QESBA—June 19th
- QESBA Student Advisory Committee (QSAC)
- Governance Program
- Date of Next Meeting

b) Report from Committees

No report was made.

26-05.17 **Next meeting**

The next regular meeting will be held on June 17, 2026.

26-05.18 **Question period**

a) Public

There were no questions.

b) Commissioners

There were no questions.

26-05.19 **In-camera session**

It was MOVED by J. Kilganan, SECONDED by K. Richardson, and unanimously RESOLVED; THAT an in-camera session be held to announce to the Council of Commissioners the candidate that was appointed as the new Principal of Valcartier Elementary School.

26-05.20 **Adjournment**

The meeting was ADJOURNED at 9:20 p.m. on a motion by L. Bechtiger.

Vincent Laliberté | Jean Robert
Secretary General | Chairman

Approved on June 17, 2026.