

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

BOARD MEETING, JUNE 14, 2016



Delegation from Francophonie Jeunesse de l'Alberta (FJA)

The executive director of Francophonie Jeunesse de l'Alberta, Casey Edmunds, shared a video and an excellent report on the EXPO Jeunesse conference held last April with 45 CSCN students. The conference was part of a district-sponsored project “*La Voix des jeunes*”. Casey Edmunds highlighted the topics discussed during the conference, such as persisting stereotypes between schools, the importance of developing and nourishing youth’s cultural identity, as well as the identity of district schools.

Delegation from École Joseph-Moreau

The school council chair, Pierre Asselin, expressed his gratitude to trustees for keeping Joseph-Moreau as its top Capital Plan priority. He wants to make sure the Minister will keep his word regarding the construction of a new school. The trustees thanked him for his work along with the school council’s efforts regarding the school’s future.

École Boréal

The superintendent provided the Board with recent information shared with parents and staff of École Boréal. The Board is working closely with the Alberta Government and the other two school authorities in planning the next school term. Indeed, there will be a Francophone program in Fort McMurray in 2016-2017, but in a different facility yet to be determined. Although École Boréal was not directly impacted by the fire, important clean-up work and renovations are required before students and staff can return.

In the next few days, the school will invite parents to complete the Student Registration Form for 2016-2017.

All Fort McMurray school employees are receiving full pay and benefits according to their contract even if they won’t be back at work until the end of August.

Our statistics show that the 143 students from École Boréal have relocated as follows: CSCN (58), Alberta (35), Canada (10), outside of Canada (3), unknown (31), other (6).

The new public high school in Edmonton is named École Michaëlle-Jean

The Board ratified the recommendation of a selection committee that the new public junior/senior high school be named “École Michaëlle-Jean”.

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Her Excellency Michaëlle Jean was the 27th Governor General of Canada between 2005 and 2010. She was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and her family moved to Thedford Mines in 1968. Michaëlle Jean is known as a stateswoman, diplomat, television personality and journalist. She was the first Black person and the third woman to become Governor General. Mrs. Jean speaks French, English, Spanish, Italian and Creole.

Her Excellency Michaëlle Jean is now Secretary General of La Francophonie, the first ever woman to occupy this function.

Her representative in Canada wrote: *“Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, is honored and touched that her name is being given to the first Francophone public high school in Edmonton”.*

École Joseph-Moreau

The Minister of Education, David Eggen, approved \$2 million in preliminary financing to launch the planning and design phase of a replacement school for École Joseph-Moreau. The Board thanked the Minister for this investment that will allow initial work to be undertaken soon, for example retaining architectural services to undertake a consultation process with parents and the neighbourhood, planning and designing the building, surveying, permit applications, etc. to prepare for the construction on the actual site.

Budget 2016-2017

The Board approved the 2016-2017 budget based on projected revenues of \$53,297,349, estimated expenses of \$53,847,349, resulting in an anticipated deficit of \$550,000.

School Fees 2016-2017

The Board adopted the following school fees:

	K	1-6	7-9	10-12
	\$	\$	\$	\$
School resource fees	85	50	90	125
Complementary courses 7-9			60	
Cultural fees		15	25	25

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Agenda (optional)		10-15		
Total	85	65	175	150
Complementary courses 10-12				
International Language				40
Visual Arts				40
Graphic Design				40
Multimedia				40
Design				40
Physical Education				40
Others				40
Welding				60
Foods				60
Construction				60
Hairstyling				60
Robotics				60
Others				60
Phys Ed 20/30				110

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School Fees, Policy D-4081

The Board amended policy D-4081 to add: *“The schools cannot prohibit a student from participating in extracurricular activities even if school fees have not yet been paid”.*

The Board asked administration to add this statement to the administrative procedure on School Fees, *“Teachers must not be involved in collecting school fees”.*

Designation of school principals and assistant principals

The following principals received a four-year term nomination from 2016-2017 until the end of 2019-2020: Adèle Amyotte at Sainte-Jeanne-d’Arc, Nancy Bélanger at La Mission, Sylvie Bertrand at Sans-Frontières, Audrey Boivin at the Réseau, Hélène Gendron at Desrochers, Michel Lapointe at Claudette-et-Denis-Tardif and Lisa Magera at Citadelle. Two principals received a one-year term: Firmin Guéladé at À la Découverte and Michelle Baril on secondment at Alberta Education.

The following assistant principals received a one-year contract for 2016-2017: Valérie Lang at Citadelle; Shanelle Dion at Notre-Dame; Pierre Hébert and Josée Dallaire on secondment at Alberta Education.

A error in last month's Board Highlights wrongfully mentioned that Heather Coffin was offered a one-year term contract as an Assistant Principal at École Michaëlle-Jean. In fact, she has received a four-year term nomination from 2016 to 2020.

Appointment of a Director of administrative and financial services

Marc Labonté was appointed Director of administrative and financial services for CSCN. M Labonté is currently the secretary-treasurer for Conseil scolaire Centre-Est. Over the last four years, he oversaw CSCE's finances, budget and capital planning. During that period, he also provided financial services to Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest. He will begin on September 1.

Update on new legislation in education

The trustees are disappointed with the Notley Government's decision to postpone the adoption of the Education Act. As a result, the current School Act (1988) remains in force. For CSCN, a key implication is that the School Act prevents school districts from having more than seven trustees. CSCN wishes to add an eighth trustee in time for the next school election in October 2017.

C2 Committee

ASBA and the ATA established C2 Committees in June 2013, in 61 school authorities across Alberta. The goal was to identify ways to reduce teacher workload and improve teacher efficacy. The Board's C2 Committee was comprised of representatives from the ATA, Alberta Education and CSCN. They met 11 times between fall 2013 and spring 2016.

The Work Plan describes achievements linked to two teacher surveys conducted at the beginning and mid-point of the mandate. Committee members were proud to report they were able to attain most objectives set in 10 categories prioritized by teachers: Complete (20); On-going (5); Delayed (1); Abandoned (2).

Trustees thanked the C2 Committee members, past and present, for their commitment to this joint initiative striving to benefit all teachers: Christien Perrault and Henri Lemire, co-chairs; Karen Doucet, trustee; Nicole Bugeaud and Gisèle Bourque, assistant superintendents; Kim St.André-Brady, Pierre Hébert, Steve Mazerolle and Caroline Wainman, teachers and administrators; and, Gilbert Guimont, Carmen Stuart and Lizette Belisle from Alberta Education.

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Human Resources Committee

The Board approved the agreement, in principle, with Unifor Local 52-A, representing support staff. The three-year agreement does not provide an increase in salary, but introduces a spending account in the third year of the contract.

Leasehold improvements at École À la Découverte

On March 22, the Board confirmed its intention to lease Queen Mary Park School from Edmonton Public School Board in 2016-2017 to relocate École À la Découverte. Leasehold improvements in the amount of \$199,393 will be undertaken by Tri-Tec Project Management during the next two months.

Capital Reserves

The Board approved the use of \$219,000 from Capital Reserves to cover leasehold costs at Queen Mary Park School to accommodate the students of École À la Découverte.

École Claudette-et-Denis-Tardif (Sherwood Park)

The lowest bid of \$1,415,597 from Prologic Construction Ltd. was retained for the installation of a start-up school in Sherwood Park in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

Relocation of modular classrooms

CSCN is appealing a decision by the Director of Capital Planning to rescind \$340,551 in provincial funding to move portable classrooms from La Prairie and Desrochers, to Notre-Dame and Gabrielle-Roy, respectively.

Next meetings

The annual organizational meeting and the next regular meeting of the Board, previously scheduled for August 23, will be held on August 30, at 6:00 pm at La Cité francophone.

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