



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **The Lester B. Pearson School Board to take next steps required to build new off-island school**

**Dorval QC., June 4, 2010** – The Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) has begun the process of finalizing the acquisition of a property in St-Lazare that will become the site of the long-awaited new elementary school. This comes after the City of Saint-Lazare voted to cede a piece of land to the LBPSB at their city’s Council meeting on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The land is located at the corner of Jolicoeur and du Bosquet streets in St. Lazare and measures just over 17,000 square metres. The new elementary school is slated to open at the start of the 2011-2012 school year. “We want to thank Mayor Pierre Kary and the City of St. Lazare for approving this piece of land for the new school,” said Marcus Tabachnick, Chairman of the LBPSB. “This new elementary school will be the most energy-efficient and eco-friendly school building in Quebec and a positive asset for this growing community.” He went on to say, “A special thanks has to go to the Board’s Administration, and in particular Senior Director Carol Heffernan and Equipment Services Director Bruno Côté and their teams who all worked so hard to make this possible.”

A Special Meeting of the Council of Commissioners will take place on Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> to restart the final stage of the Major School Change Consultation (launched last March) - the Rezoning of Off-Island Elementary Schools. The school board will meet with the western sector community to discuss the possible re-configuration of attendance zones. Additionally, the Board’s “New School” advisory committee will be reconvened. The committee will now include 2 representatives from the City of St-Lazare. A timeline for the consultation and a preliminary schedule of committee meetings will be released by the LBPSB shortly after Monday’s Council meeting.

The school board’s Legal Department immediately began working with the City’s Administration to finalize the transfer of the piece of land. The board anticipates the legal process to be completed quickly and will then will announce a start date for the construction of the new elementary school.

**The Special Meeting of the Council of Commissioners will begin at 7:00 pm. It will be held in the Board Room at the LBPSB’s head office, located at 1925 Brookdale Avenue, Dorval and is open to the public. The meeting will be also webcast live, via the school board’s website: [www.lbpsb.qc.ca](http://www.lbpsb.qc.ca).**

The Lester B. Pearson School Board is an English school board serving more than 32,000 students and staff in 60 schools, adult and vocational centres, an International Language Centre,

and an Administrative Centre on a territory from Verdun westward to the Ontario border. The Lester B. Pearson School Board is recognized locally, nationally and internationally as a progressive and innovative public education institution pioneering a model of inclusive education and an acclaimed International Studies Program. It is also the first school board in Quebec to pilot a universally-available half-day Kindergarten program for 4 year olds and a tri-lingual International full-day Pre-Kindergarten program.

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