Charter of Quebec values: Discussions took place if CPC will have the opportunity to defend the Bill 60 brief. If an election is called and CPC does not have the opportunity to present themselves the thought of a possible statement should be made.

The final tally of the petition topped 3500 signatures, the petition will be tabled on February 13 at the National Assembly.

Digital Citizenship: Presentation by Michael Chechile on January 16th was well appreciated and parents are supportive of introducing technology in schools.

Some discussion on the multiple of IT platforms used in schools are a concern to parents when it comes to supporting technical issues.

Also discussions on cloud base computing on personal data protection and security holes
It was mentioned that if Board controlled server technology would be safest option

Financial Literacy: Discussions continue on the goal to include Financial Literacy in the curriculum. Discussion also continue at the parent committees at other English School Boards under the EPCA umbrella. This will be discussed and in more detail at EPCA's February meeting.

Administration representation mentioned that there are some rumblings that MELS is working on something that will deal with Financial literacy, and that our efforts should continue.

School fees: It was felt that clear documentation is not provided to parents as to what in fact is appropriate to be labeled as a school fee.

Legislation is not keeping up this issue. For example, iTunes accounts and purchasing books on them is this considered a school fee?

Tax deduction on school fees a non starter as per current laws because service is rendered.

It was suggested a starting point was to get a summary from schools as to what is being charged.

This will be further discussed in Regions and at High School and Elementary school groups.
School Enrolment: Discussions evolved that parents would like to see the school board do more marketing and promotional materials.

Admin indicated that they will be working with a marketing firm specializing in surveys to probe parents of Grade 6 and 7 students about reasons for choosing high school. Parents appreciated this initiative and were hopeful that it will target a broader audience.

Français + program change at St. Charles came from community and the school. It was felt that generic sessions on moving on to High School would be good.

QESBA should play a more active role with parents in promoting English public education by finding ways to attract those parents from sending their children francophone schools.

Upcoming Commissioner Election: It was suggested that CPC should make efforts at encouraging parents to go out and vote in next year’s elections. An invitation received by L. Derry inviting anyone who may be interested in pursuing a position as Commissioner in the upcoming election to a workshop offered by QESBA was distributed amongst all members.

English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA): Discussions took place on the role of EPCA, the services it provides parent committees and the desire to receive more timely information on EPCA’s activities.

EPCA President spoke regarding Bill 60 on CJAD on February 5th. Link can be found to podcast on EPCAQuebec.org Twitter link.

EPCA President to meet with assistant deputy minister for English affairs on February 21st.

CPC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson met with the President to discuss underlying issues of communications and the direction of EPCA is pursuing. Together a list of priority issues were amalgamated and the President is to bring back to the EPCA table to discuss.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Parent Commissioner, Secondary Schools