

Council of Commissioners' Meeting January 25, 2021 Highlights

1) The Council of Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the Quebec government to ensure staff working in schools and centres are considered essential employees and subsequently are viewed as a high priority group in the Quebec government's current COVID-19 inoculation plan. According to the current plan, teachers and school staff have been placed in the second to last step of the priority list with the exception of those who have underlying health conditions. Commissioners maintain that prioritizing vaccinations for teachers and education workers will also add an extra layer of protection in terms of preventing the spread of the virus in its schools while reducing risks for school employees as well as students and their families.

The board's Department of Communications and Community Development will be issuing a press release to inform the media about this decision by the Commissioners.

- 2) The Council of Commissioners approved a decision to add the items of winter carpets and library supplies to the Cooperative Group Purchasing Plan of the Comité de gestion de la taxe scolaire de l'Île de Montréal (CGTSIM) for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 3) The Council of Commissioners approved the Lester B. Pearson School Board's participation in the Centre d'acquisition gouvernementales group purchasing of Audio Visual Equipment and Interactive Solutions for a 24-month term with the option to renew for an additional 12-month term and authorized the Director General to sign the resulting procurement delegations and purchase orders for, and on behalf of the board.
- 4) A decision was taken to authorize five Commissioners to attend the CAPSLE Virtual Conference to be held from May 2 to 4, 2021 with expenses being reimbursed in accordance with the School Board's Policy governing Commissioners' Local Travel, Conference and Other Expenses. CAPSLE is a national organization whose aim is to provide an open forum for the practical study of legal issues related to and affecting the education system and stakeholders, which include teachers, administrators, board members, trustees, unions, school board associations, educators, academics, students, government and lawyers.

- 5) The Council of Commissioners assigned the review of the following policies:
 - Purchasing Policy;
 - Day Care and Lunch Policy;
 - Review of the Student Representation at the LBPSB;

Following their review the respective committees will make recommendations to the Council of Commissioners for consideration;

IN OTHER NEWS:

New Podcast!

The Blank Canvas is a new monthly podcast designed to bring listeners together by sharing the innovations and creative output that is currently happening in different Lester B. Pearson school communities. Weighted heavily on the arts, the podcast will feature interviews with students, teachers, guest speakers, and administrators.

To hear the first podcast featuring an interview with LBPSB's Director General Cindy Finn, please click here: <u>anchor.fm/frank-caracciolo</u>