

## **SWLSB PARENTS' COMMITTEE MEETING: March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017**

Highlights – report to GB

### **Bill 105 – Presentation by Mme Brabant, Secretary General SWLSB**

An Act to amend the Education Act. Presentation on key changes and implementation timelines. Abbreviated summary will be issued. Main takeaways:

- The school board's role is to SUPPORT the schools in achieving their goals
- Greater emphasis on promoting healthy lifestyles in school board decisions
- Decisions are to be made as close as possible to those that benefit those decisions (ie schools)
- Resource Allocation Committee: Composition of people involved is different, process still the same
- Minister currently developing new set of goals to underpin schools' Commitment-to-Success-Plans
- If a School Board isn't performing, the Minister can intervene (however, no guidelines on what constitutes poor performance), and can place a board "in receivership"
- Status quo till all new measures are implemented (some up to July 2018).

### **History Curriculum:**

Jennifer Maccarone presented summary of a recent meeting called by the Minister for Education and attended by all key stakeholders, where they debated concerns about the underrepresentation of minorities in history. Minister's message was 'it's not too late', took note of all the suggested content amendments and will provide "Companion Material" asap (ready for this September). New version of the curriculum is coming soon and will be submitted for review by DEEN and QPAT. Since the meeting, Minister has confirmed that they will allow for personalised content within the curriculum and examination process, Eg. If a school wants to include a section on Mohawk history because it's important to their region, they can teach it and test their students on it. In all, it appears to have been a very encouraging meeting with positive outcomes.

Closing remark: The SWLSB does not intend to endorse the statement presented by EPCA

### **Budget Building Process:**

Asking GB's to review and vote on adoption.

### **School Board Report: Paul Lamoureux, Director General**

- Currently in Registration Period, numbers delayed, may have to do "provisional staffing".
- New Organisation Chart adopted; reorganization of services to schools, new roles, new assignments.
- Started the assignment process for Principals; recommendations will be presented to Council of Commissioners in April for ratification.
- Universal Design for Learning principles; exploring adapted equipment and furniture in classrooms, foundation that promotes and funds this in schools.
- Arundel Science Centre; future 'on hold', budget issues re maintenance. Status quo for now.