

During the General Council meeting held on February 17 and 18, 2017, 99 delegates from 57 school boards attended. There were also 38 PEHDAA Forum delegates from 33 school boards.

GENERAL COUNCIL

Implementation of Bill 105

The President of the FCPQ reported on a meeting held with Deputy Minister of Education on February 15, 2017. Representatives of the various associations or federations of parents, school principals, general directors, school boards, French-speaking and English-speaking, attended.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of Bill 105. During this meeting, the Minister was asked several questions about process and interpretation. One of them dealt specifically with the right of commissioners representing the Parents' Committee to vote.

The President explained the answer provided by the Ministry representatives, which was, in brief, the Legislator's desire to give commissioners representing the Parents' Committee the right to vote to clearly ensure the voice of the Parents' Committee was presented at meetings of the Council of Commissioners. Furthermore, it is up each Parents' Committee to determine or discuss how its representatives would conduct (vote) themselves during Council of Commissioner meetings concerning subjects that the Parents' Committee was not consulted on.

Workshops

On the morning of February 18, The Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Sébastien Proulx, worked with the parents present at the morning workshop. He sat down with them to discuss and exchange opinions and ideas about communications to parents. The goal was to answer the following question "What do you want to know about your children's progress in school and how?" Parents were also given the opportunity to design the ideal "report card," building a report that would contain what they would like so that they can monitor their children's progress in school effectively. The Minister expressed interest in the documentation handed out and he requested a follow-up of the results of the two workshops on the subject.

It was also agreed that the innovative ideal report cards designed by parents would be scanned and sent to the delegates present so that everyone's ideas could make the round of the schools.

The afternoon session focused on the question of early intervention, notably on the topic of 4-year olds' kindergarten.

The workshops made it possible to highlight parents' needs and expectations. The full results will be sent to the delegates in a few weeks, once the results have been analyzed and compiled.

Quick poll – Financial Literacy course

With a view to gleaning parents' viewpoint, the delegates present were asked to participate in a quick poll on the upcoming Financial Literacy course. The results show that 58% of parents agree with reducing the number of Contemporary World teaching hours in order to offer the Financial Literacy course. 35% disagree and 7% did not answer the question.

PROVINCIAL SYMPOSIUM – JUNE 2017

At the General Council meeting, there were questions about the FCPQ's decision to have a symposium rather than an annual convention, as well as about the format for the event. Here is some information that you can share with your Parents' Committee at this point:

- The event will take place on June 3, at Hôtel Clarion de Québec;
- The theme is *The Educational Project, at the Heart of It All*;
- The cost is \$190 (taxes included) for those registering before April 30 and \$220 (taxes included) after that date.

The format consists of:

- An opening lecture;
- A briefing on educational projects, with a component geared towards research;
- A guest panel representing the various members of a Governing Board, who will talk about their vision and role in creating and implementing an educational project;
- A real-life account of an educational project;
- Workshops and plenary sessions aimed at defining the winning conditions for future educational projects as described in Bill 105.

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The registration kit will be online in early March 2017 and all the information concerning reimbursement for delegates' travel expenses will be posted then. (Please note that the General Council will also be help on Friday, June 2.)

PEHDAA Forum

After participating in the Saturday morning workshop about communications to parents with the General Council delegates, and also having the opportunity to exchange with the Minister of Education, the Forum parents participated in a presentation/exchange with Johanne Magloire, a representative of the *Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse*. This activity dealt specifically with reasonable accommodation and inclusion in school.

Québec Coalition of Parents of Children with Special Needs

The Forum was followed by the founding assembly meeting of the *Coalition de parents d'enfants à besoins particuliers du Québec*. A motion to congratulate the FCPQ was passed unanimously for the Federation's logistical support for this founding meeting.

Note that the French version of CG Express prevails over this version.

The Federation has many tools for parents at www.fcpq.qc.ca. You can also join us on Facebook and Twitter!