



December 9, 2019

Ms. Astrid Lalonde

Via email: nounoucheka@hotmail.com

Dear Ms. Lalonde:

Re: Dual language communication

Further to my last email dated September 13, 2019, the subject of the dual language communication was brought up at the public Board of Regional Trustees' meeting held on current September 21st. Your letter was part of the official correspondence received by the Board at the meeting that same day.

The Conseil scolaire francophone (CSF) is aware of the challenges that the exogamous families face in a francophone school system and is sympathetic to their plight. As such, it encourages the buddy system while attending various school activities, including attending PAC meetings, and is a proponent of the use of several tools and services like *Google translate* and «*aide aux devoirs*».

French remains the main language of communication at the CSF in accordance with its policy *P-101 Mission, vision et langue du CSF*. The Board of Regional Trustees is conscious that communications regarding the health and safety of its students should be bilingual. Furthermore, the administration does communicate in both French and English regarding road conditions and school closures during a storm for instance, or for high-risk activity purposes, or, again, regarding dangerous occurrence during school hours to name a few examples.

It would also be unreasonable to ask school personnel, teachers included, to take on the responsibility of communicating both in French and English. No other public Board of Education requires that their personnel translate their work, not to mention the added skill set and time required to do so.

The CSF has a mandate to provide a francophone education to students of right holder families in accordance with the School Law and Section 23 of the Charter of Rights and Freedom of Canada. That balance needs to be preserved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marie-Pierre Lavoie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marie-Pierre Lavoie
Chair

Encl.: Politique P-101 Mission, vision et langue de communication