

QUEBEC FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS INC. LA FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE DES ASSOCIATIONS FOYERS-ÉCOLES INC.

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Resolution 2015/03

SCHOOL AND SCHOOL YARD MAINTENANCE

Submitted by Rights, Education and Resolution Committee

WHEREAS the maintenance, cleanliness and general appearance of schools and school yards (poorly washed floors, paint peeling off the walls, uncut grass) has deteriorated significantly over the past few years; and

WHEREAS the lack of sanitation in school surroundings can contribute to an increase in gastrointestinal illnesses, asthmatic reactions and urinary tract infections; and

WHEREAS badly maintained schools, school yards, school washrooms and classrooms can result in diminished morale for children and staff; and

WHEREAS unclean surroundings and the poor maintenance of school buildings, school furnishings, school washrooms and school yards with limited access to outdoor play can negatively affect academic performance; and

WHEREAS a well maintained school and school yard can increase a student's sense of responsibility for his/her environment; and

WHEREAS schools should be modeling safe and hygienic practices; and

WHEREAS in 1991 both Canada and Quebec signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and that both governments must act at all times in compliance with the CRC and in the best interest of the child (Art. 1), ensuring children the highest standard of health (art. 24), a standard of living adequate for the child's full development (art. 27) and that the child's education be directed to the development of the child's fullest abilities (art. 29) and specifically to the development of respect for the natural environment (art. 29e); and

WHEREAS school custodians should receive proper training on methods to clean and disinfect the school, school washrooms, classrooms, and school yard; and

WHEREAS winter conditions in Canada create a serious risk to health and safety of students, staff, and families who access the school if access paths and school yards are not cleared of ice and snow; and

WHEREAS schools and school yards are part of a larger community and, badly maintained, have direct detrimental effect- in influencing parents choice of school, and community morale;



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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Québec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. ask the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research to assure that schools comply with the applicable standards for school cleanliness and school yard maintenance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Québec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. urge the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research to increase the budget allotment for school and school yard maintenance in order to facilitate healthier school environments without removing funds from any other school budget..

DESTINATIONS:

Premier of Quebec and Minister responsible for Youth Issues Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research and Minister responsible for Recreation and Sport

Minister of Health and Social Services

Minister for Rehabilitation, Youth Protection and Public Health

Minister of Families and Minister responsible for Anti-Bullying

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy

Council of Ministers of Education, Canada

Minister of Health of Canada

Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages of Canada

Canadian Home and School Federation

Advisory Board on English Education in Quebec

Quebec English School Boards Association

Commission scolaire du Littoral School Board

Fédération des commissions scolaires du Québec

Association of Administrators of English Schools of Quebec

Association des cadres scolaires du Québec

Ouebec Provincial Association of Teachers

Fédération des syndicats de l'enseignement

Fédération autonome de l'enseignement

English Parents' Committee Association

Fédération des comités de parents du Québec

Quebec Community Groups Network

Coalition for the Future of English Education in Quebec

Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM)

Union des municipalités du Québec

Fédération des CEGEPS

L'Association des garderies privées du Québec (AGPQ)