

PCHS GB Motion related to the rebranding of the school

Whereas the PCHS GB is deeply concerned about the extraordinary decision that the Minister of Education took in transferring Riverdale High School's Deed of Establishment to the Marguerite-Bourgeoys School Board;

Whereas PCHS has always welcomed and included students and families from any and all schools as part of the PCHS community at any time throughout the school year;

Whereas the loss of a school identity is a loss that impedes the best functioning of a school;

Whereas the PCHS GB deems it to be of utmost importance to welcome, accommodate and accept the Riverdale community as part of the PCHS community in a seamless transition;

Whereas the planned closure of PCHS on June 30th along with RHS would result in the absence of a longstanding and established public anglophone secondary institution in the Pierrefonds community;

Whereas the PCHS GB, staff and community at large will honour the Riverdale community and its rich history and traditions;

Whereas the PCHS community has worked tirelessly to create a well-known, respected brand in the LBPSB;

Whereas the efforts mentioned above have resulted in PCHS achieving success rates that outperform private High Schools across Quebec in subjects such as – *français enrichi/de base*, CST math and scientific math, and science and technology, and include 100% success rates in subjects such as – physics and chemistry, environmental science and technology, *français enrichi*, and *histoire du Québec et du Canada*;

Whereas PCHS offers a wide variety of educational programs to meet the needs of all students, including International Baccalaureate, French Immersion and English Core programs, as well as various alternative learning programs for students who require a less traditional learning approach;

Whereas PCHS is a thriving high school that offers a multitude of extracurricular sports, clubs and performance groups. These activities include: soccer, futsal, touch football, track and field, badminton, hockey, basketball, volleyball, rugby, comic book club, GSA, green team, leadership crew, robotics, art club, outdoor club, Muses and PC Players, amongst others;

Whereas the accommodation and acceptance of the Riverdale community as part of the PCHS community represents an opportunity to strengthen the cumulative programs offered to students of both communities under a single structure;

Whereas in recent years there have not been closures or mergers at the high school level within LBPSB, new processes and procedures must be considered;

Whereas LBPSB high schools have open attendance boundaries, which allow parents to choose to enrol students in any high school within the school board boundaries in accordance with the stipulations of the enrolment criteria;

Whereas the school board initiated procedures to close PCHS without consulting its governing board as per Article 40 of the Quebec Education Act;

Whereas this closure was communicated to the school GB chair and principal on the 25th of January, to the staff on January 28th and to the community at large via ERMS on January 28th;

Whereas there is no confirmation of the extent of financial support that the provincial government will make available for a full rebranding;

Whereas funds have recently been injected into the branding of PCHS in and around the school grounds. The significant funds required to rebrand the school could be better used to further strengthen the educational services provided to students;

It was moved by Heather Himbury and seconded by Angela Crosbie and unanimously resolved that the PCHS GB respectfully requests:

to MAINTAIN the current thriving and vibrant high school, that is highly regarded in and around our community and wishes to openly welcome the Riverdale community as part of the PCHS family; and

That the PCHS deed of establishment remain as is and that the process of welcoming, accommodating, accepting and honouring the Riverdale community as part of the PCHS community continue through a transition committee.