



Association des comités de parents anglophones English Parents' Committee Association

School Board Elections: Why You Should Care

On November 2, 2014, a very important event will take place: School Board elections. It's been seven years since we last went to the polls to elect a Council of Commissioners in our School Boards, but the time has come, and we must make it count.

We know what most people's first reaction is when we mention these elections. It goes from "who cares?" to those few, less than ten percent of possible voters that believe it is their obligation to exercise their right to vote. Yes, that's right, those few that take the time to vote and ensure that School Boards can continue the excellent work that they are doing. But who makes this possible? Commissioners do. Those people like you, who, by their conviction, present themselves to be elected so that they can see to the success of our students.

Let's examine together what is at play here. Canada and particularly Quebec keep appearing in the list of the top ten places to be educated in. Most of our students always perform outstandingly. Have you ever wondered why?

It's because of the hard work and conviction of the people that work at the boards. This includes Commissioners, whose visions are always driven toward the success of our students.

They are people like you, people who give their time and devote themselves to doing what's best for our children, alongside teachers, principals, administrators and support staff. Commissioners are a part of this team. They make sure to do everything that can possibly be done in order to assure the success of the students.

This year more than ever, politicians will be looking at the voter turn out. Will they use this to measure the interest people have in School Boards? Will this be the end of parent representation? If it is, who will be there to make sure that public money is well spent?

A lot is at stake here and we, the parents, do not want to see bureaucrats make cold and heartless decisions about which schools will remain open or how our children will be educated. A task of the Council is to see to the maintenance of the buildings and to ensure that every possible cent is spent towards the success of our students. They care.

This year like never before, we are urging everyone to vote. This will be a warning message to all not to touch our only link to the education system. We need to show them that we care about and support the excellent work that school boards are doing. We don't want bureaucrats deciding what's best for our children. Let's be heard loud and clear.

On November 2nd, no matter what your individual convictions are, get out there and vote. It has never been more important than it is now. Let's fight to keep our School Boards, they work, it's a proven fact.