

Minutes of the Special General Assembly
Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 4:30 p.m.
Zoom Teleconference

1. **Call to Order:** Annie Sabourin called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

Moved by Tracy Bieszez, seconded by Kathleen Gardner

THAT the agenda of the Special General Assembly be approved.

CARRIED

2. **Opening Remarks:** Matt Wilson thanked everyone for attending, as we need to send a strong message to the government. He explained how the meeting will work. He thanked everyone who attended the rally in Montreal and all teachers who have been keeping up their visibility actions in front of their schools and centres. He welcomed François Breault.
3. **Discussion of Negotiations:** François Breault presented what is happening at the bargaining table and the strike mandate. He explained where QPAT stands in the Common Front. We have been negotiating for nearly a year. He explained which parts of the demand are intersectorial and which are sectorial. We are very far from the government in the negotiations. Every demand from the union has been answered with a no from the government. Salary and our pension plan are in a very precarious place if the government gets their way.
4. **Question Period on Negotiations:** François Breault answered questions from the audience.
5. **Discussion of Strike Mandate:** François Breault presented the strike mandate. All affiliates of the Common Front are seeking the same mandate. All consultations will be finished by October 13. The hope is that the mandate alone will push talks with the government. The whole Common Front (420,000 members) would go out at the same time. He explained how much of a financial impact one day of strike would have. Our strike action would include a general unlimited strike. It would be preceded by a series of strike actions. Seven days of notice must be given to the school board. The strike action would proceed as follows: 1) Innovative strike (for a part of the day). 2) Two to three full days back-to-back. 3) General unlimited strike. These actions require a waiting period of at least seven days in between. The earliest we would be on strike would be late October/early November, which would put the second action the third week of November. The third action could happen before Christmas. None of this is set in stone.
6. **Explanation of Rally Vote:** Matt Wilson explained the rally vote.
7. **Question Period on Strike Mandate:** François Breault answered questions from the audience.

8. Vote of a Strike Mandate: I mandate the Pearson Teachers Union to initiate a strike action when the time is right, up to and including a general unlimited strike. Initiating a general unlimited strike should be preceded by a series of strike actions that take the negotiation context into account.

Moved by Matt Wilson, seconded by Jacqueline Jansons.

9. Rally Vote (if necessary): This was not necessary.

10. Results of Strike Vote: **CARRIED (97% in favour)**

11. Closing Remarks: Matt Wilson thanked everyone for the strong mandate and for attending the meeting.

12. Adjournment: Moved by Marguerite Prince,

THAT the meeting be adjourned (6:56pm). **CARRIED**

Submitted by
Jennifer Baltuonis, Secretary