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## Report of the Educational Policies Committee (EPC) Year-End-Report (June 2025)

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### Members

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| PTU:    | Matt Wilson (Chairperson), Erica Lamothe, Pasquale Machado, Marguerite Prince, Marie-Pier Michaud, Christina George |
| LBPSB : | Alana Quinn-Leroux (Secretary), James Walker, David Chisholm, Mathieu Canavan, Dean Graddon and Lisa Baylis         |

The committee tried to meet on a monthly basis to review recurring topics such as upcoming workshops, technology, programs, and innovations.

### *Déboulage*

This topic was an important one for the committee this year. *Déboulage* means to halt the automatic promotion in high school, for students of cycle 2. It means, for example, that Secondary 4 students will no longer advance to Secondary 5 without meeting minimum requirements. This change primarily affects classes without a Ministry exam, such as English and French. Classes with a Ministry exam, such as History and Science were already requiring students' success in order to move on to the next level.

Previously, students could fail Secondary 4 English yet still enroll in Secondary 5 English, with retroactive credits awarded upon passing the Secondary 5 class. This shift has raised concerns about planning and scheduling, particularly in smaller high schools.

In addition, Secondary 3 students must achieve at least a 60% mark to progress in their classes, potentially affecting options like art and physical education, which are essential for graduation. The "*déboulage*" process will no longer grant back credits for incomplete courses, increasing the likelihood of remedial classes and impacting summer school schedules.

To communicate these changes, ESD drafted a letter for parents and school administration held meetings with schools' staff. A PowerPoint presentation was presented to grade 9 students, and a webinar for parents clarified the legal aspects. School principals should monitor student progress via a dashboard, encouraging innovative scheduling solutions for the upcoming school year.

Another of the school board's objectives is to support ways to minimize the number of students in summer school. For instance, science consultants collaborated with grade 9 teachers to enhance student success. An in-house summer school will be held at Macdonald High, but summer school grades will not replace June 2025 report card grades.

Concerns were raised about exam accessibility, as only Macdonald will conduct in-person exams, complicating transportation for students in the eastern part of the school board territory. Human Resources assessed additional allocations to mitigate the impacts of these changes, and schools were provided with an allocation to hire a teacher to minimize the possible impacts of the new *déboulage* implementation.

### **Implementation of the CCQ Program**

Discussions were held on implementation of the new CCQ programme regarding the materials, exemption process, teachers' training, and more. The lack of proper textbooks was mentioned a few times and the committee learned that the MEQ noted that the company selected for translating textbooks will be the lowest compliant bidder. However, school boards are opposing this overly simplistic approach and are advocating for a more comprehensive selection process to be implemented.

### **Continuing Education**

Updates from the centres were provided to the committee. Information was provided on francisation, online synchronized classes and more. A review of the OurSchool survey was also provided.

### **EDDI Working Group**

Information was provided to the committee about the activities of the EDDI Working group and their initiatives. Patricia Blackett is the school board consultant; this year, two schools, Kingsdale and Sunshine Academy, have taken part in a full-day workshop in March.

### **Technology**

Jason Cantelmi from the LBPSB came to meet with the committee on a few occasions and served as the liaison with the school board and GRICS, which is the company in charge of Mozaik. Concerns and questions were shared; a few updates have been made (for example, the email option is now functioning) in Mozaik.

### **Workshops**

Dates and contents of workshops were presented to the committee. Discussion took place about the possibility of not offering professional development activities on teacher-driven pedagogical days.

### **Guest Speakers**

Andrea Fraser, responsible for the *sanction des études* at LBPSB, came to present the changes made by the Ministry regarding exam weighting, medical notes for exams and 2024-2025 changes in September. She also came in March to answer *déboulage* questions and P1 (prototype exams) questions.

**Student Evaluation Policy**

The school board has been working on a draft document for the Student Evaluation Policy. Discussion took place during a few meetings; the final product has not been presented to the committee as of May 2025.

**Technology: AI and AI framework**

Some teachers and administrators were released to come up with a framework for teachers. The framework will be created to provide teachers and schools with information on AI usage and utilities.

Submitted by  
Marie-Pier Michaud