



November 26, 2019

M. Jean-François Roberge  
Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur  
Édifice Marie-Guyart  
1035, rue De La Chevrotière, 16th floor  
Quebec (Quebec), G1R 5A5

**RE: *Representation of parents and guardians of handicapped students with social maladjustments or learning difficulties in school decision-making bodies***

Dear Minister Roberge,

We, the Special Needs Advisory Committee of the Lester B. Pearson School Board, have grave concerns about the lack of representation for students with handicaps, social maladjustments and learning disabilities in *Bill 40: An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance*.

Students with handicaps, social maladjustments and learning disabilities represent a significant proportion of Quebec students. To meet the needs of these students, it is imperative that they have adequate representation on decision-making bodies. Parents and guardians of these students can aid in identifying their particular needs to help ensure their success.

We, the Lester B Pearson School Board Special Needs Advisory Committee, would like to make the following recommendations:

- 1) that Bill 40 be withdrawn, to allow for more time to evaluate the potential impacts that the proposed changes will have on the delivery of services to students with handicaps, social maladjustments and learning disabilities,
- 2) that at least one of the parent positions to be filled on the governing board be assigned to a parent of a student with a handicap, social maladjustment or learning disability, and,



- 3) that the proposed Service Centre Board of Directors includes at least one parent of a student with a handicap, social maladjustment or learning disability, and that said person be selected by, and from among, the Service Center's Special Needs Advisory Committee parent members.

We ask the government to recognize the important contribution that parents and guardians of these students can make to School Board decision-making bodies and take the necessary action to ensure adequate representation.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

We ask that you please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Jennifer DiMarco - parent representative  
SNAC Chairperson 2019-2020

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