



## **Back to school plan Working together for a serene and safe return to school**

**Montreal, August 10, 2020** - Quebec's Parent Committee associations welcome the details and adjustments to the back-to-school plan announced today by Quebec Education Minister Jean-François Roberge.

The English Parents' Committee Association (EPCA) and the Quebec's Federation of Parents' Committees (FCPQ) maintain that the most important elements for parents of students are:

- Clear, precise and consistent communications between schools and families.
- Support and tools needed to help parents support their children, especially if they cannot be in class.
- Adequate, adapted and accessible educational services for all students.

As the situation can change rapidly, further changes in the guidelines may be necessary to ensure the health and well-being of students and school staff. Parents should be involved in decisions on transitional committees of school service centers, future boards of directors and governing boards.

"We have had time to get this right and we urge the minister to ensure that all decisions will be made keeping students and parents at the heart of any deliberations," says EPCA president Katherine Korakakis.

"We all learned from our distance school experience last spring. We don't want to repeat the same mistakes," says Kévin Roy, president of the FCPQ.

EPCA and the FCPQ are available to work with the Minister, the Ministry and all education partners to ensure a safe and serene return for our children. It is essential that decisions are made primarily in the best interests of students, and that is the priority of parents.

### **About the EPCA**

*The English Parents' Committee Association represents eight Quebec English-language school service centers and is the official voice of Quebec's English public school parent community, representing almost 100,000 students in all dealings with the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur (MEES) and across all levels of government.*

### **About the FCPQ**

*For more than 45 years, the Fédération des comités de parents du Québec (FCPQ) has united parents' committees of Quebec school service centers and supports volunteer parents concerned about parental participation in public elementary and secondary schools in order to ensure the quality of the education offered to children.*

For information:

**EPCA**

Katherine Korakakis - President

Cell: (514) 668-8672

[president@epcaquebec.org](mailto:president@epcaquebec.org)

**FCPQ**

Stéphanie Rochon

Tel: (418) 667-2432

Cell: (581) 985-7137

[communications@fcpq.qc.ca](mailto:communications@fcpq.qc.ca)