



Laval Junior Academy
Governing Board Minutes
Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Present: Betty Alifteras, Nicole Anastasopoulos, Franco Daniele (parent substitute), Lauren De Carolis, William Evans, Jenny Marlaine Gauvin, Jenny Georgiopoulos, James MacPherson, Fadi Mounayar, Hareem Saad Nawaz, Michael Rice, Kathy Stavriadis, Domenica Tortorici, and Costa Tsirbas

Principal: Eric Ruggi Vice-Principal: Gloria Cuccarolo Secretary: Rose Huss

Regrets: Theresa Andrusko, Jennifer Charbonneau, George Dimacacos. Johanne Dion, Valerio Gazzola, Jonathan Gray, Effie Kontakos, Helen Morrison and Charles Chagnon

- 0. Opening of the meeting / Quorum:** The meeting was called to order by Jenny Georgiopoulos at 7:05 pm. Quorum was met. The acknowledgement of the land was read in English by Domenica Tortotici and in Mohawk by Michael Rice.
- 1. LJA-GB131222-01:** Nicole Anastasopoulos motioned to accept the resignation of Mrs. Theresa Andrusko as parent representative of the governing board and nominated Costa Tsirbas as her replacement for the remainder of the school year. The governing board wishes to acknowledge and thank Mrs. Andrusko for her service to the LJA governing board for the past three years. Kathy Stavriadis seconded the motion. Unanimous. Motion carried.
- 2. LJA-GB131222-02:** Due to the absence of Effie Kontakos for this meeting, Will Evans motions to nominate Ms. Rose Huss as secretary for this meeting. Seconded by Betty Alifteras. Unanimous, Motion carried.

1.0 Adoption of Agenda:

LJA-GB131222-03: Kathy Stavriadis motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the agenda with no modification, Domenica Tortorici seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.

2.0 Adoption of Minutes of November 8, 2022: The Minutes were distributed to all members. No amendments.

LJA-GB131222-04: Will Evans motioned for the LJA Governing Board to approve the Minutes of November 8, 2022. Seconded by Betty Alifteras. 7 in favor, 2 abstentions. Motion carries

3.0 Question Period for the Public: Mrs. Barone asked several questions concerning the Learning Bar's Our School Survey. Concerns were raised concerning the relevance and justification of some of the questions in the survey. Questions were also asked regarding how the information obtained from the survey is used to determine the programs put in place to support students at LJA.

Mr. Ruggi explained that the Our School Survey has been used for a number of years by schools throughout the country and that the questions are used to determine how students feel about numerous important school issues such as safety, anxiety, bullying and sense of belonging. The data obtained from the survey is analyzed by the school's ABAV Committee. The Committee then determines which programs will be put in place to support students.

4. Business Arising

4.1 E-votes since the last meeting

4.1.1. **Art Fundraiser**

LJA-GB131222-05: Michael Rice motioned that The Laval Junior Academy Governing Board approves the Art Department's Holiday Ornament Fundraiser as presented, seconded by Nicole Anastasopoulos. In favor 16. Against 0. Abstentions 0. The motion is carried unanimously.

4.2 **Subject-Time Allocation 2023-2024**

Mr. Ruggi presented information regarding the subject-time allocation for 2023-2024. The proposal includes a reduction in time for the new CCQ (Culture & Citizenship of Quebec) course for concentration groups. In order to maintain the current time allocation for the specialty programs, the school will apply for a derogation and for recognition of a projet pedagogique particulier.

LJA-GB131222-06: Jenny Gauvin motioned to accept the proposed subject time allocation for 2023-2024. Fadi Mounayer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Reports

5.1 **Principal's Report**

Nov. 8 – Governing Board Meeting

Nov. 10 – Remembrance Day ceremony during period 2 – in class, ABAV Committee meeting

Nov. 11 – ped day, CCI conference by SWLSB hosted at LJA, LJA hosts elementary handball tournament

Nov. 16 – Meeting regarding summer renovations

Nov. 17 – Report cards available for parents

Nov. 21 – Book fair begins, meeting regarding summer renovations, Food drive begins

Nov. 22 – Meeting of the Resource Allocation Committee

Nov. 23 – Conseil d'administration Sports Laval

Nov. 24 – Labour Relations Committee meeting (teachers)

Nov. 25 – Be U Dress Down Day (Home & School), Book Fair ends

Nov. 28 – Mrs. Robineau begins her retirement replaced by Mr. Silvaggio (Administration Officer)

Nov. 29 – Sport-etudes meeting, Home & School Association meeting, LJA Coins first distribution

Nov. 30 – Parent-Teacher Meetings (online), Management Meeting

Dec. 2 – LJA hosts elementary mini league (futsal), ped day professional development workshops & meetings for staff

Dec. 7 – Labour negotiations committee meeting (support staff)

Dec. 8 – Meeting regarding summer renovations, staff meeting for teachers

Dec. 9 – ABAV committee meeting

Dec. 13 – School visit by Mr. Greschner (Assistant Director General SWLSB), Governing board meeting, food drive ends

Upcoming

Dec. 16 – Dress Down day to support Agape

Dec. 20 – Math midyear exam

Dec. 23 – Last day before the Christmas break

Jan. 10 – First day of classes after Christmas break

5.2 Chairperson's Report

There was no report.

5.3 Parents' Committee Report

On Dec 12th PC held a special meeting to discuss the new school project in St-Lin. It was brought to our attention that the Ministry of Education would not provide additional funding (around 18M) to begin and complete the new school.

The school board received a letter from the Ministry which stated that the amount needed for the school exceeds what was originally requested when the project went to tender. The Ministry recommends that SWLSB wait until prices go back down to begin this project.

SWLSB doesn't agree with this recommendation as the prices NEVER go back down once a company or industry realizes that they can charge for more a good or service. Additionally, not building this school will continue to put a strain on the 6 schools in the St-Lin area which are already operating above the Ministry's capacity per school. The schools have had to resort to temporary building which cost a lot, wear down quickly, and require students to get fully dressed in the winter to travel from inside the main school building to these temporary buildings. All this in turn will end up being more costly to the Ministry than providing the additional funding. Not only this, but the territory in St-Lin and the commute to school can be measured in hours rather than minutes due to rezoning students to try to alleviate some of the strain on the surrounding schools.

During the meeting many questions were asked to the Commissioners from the parents of PC. One of the main questions was why did the board not go to the media with this and the question was slightly avoided which makes some of the parents in attendance to believe that the board dropped the ball somewhere. Although, the board may be partially at fault, we still think we need the additional school and passed a resolution to have the Council of Commissioners submit to the ministry on our behalf, on top of that, we created a subcommittee to write our own letter and submit it.

It is clear to PC that there must be a new school in St-Lin. We also fear that if we allow the Ministry to back out of this school that they will also back out of the other schools that SWLSB have plans to open in the next few years.

5.4 Home & School Association Report

Our last meeting for Home and School was held on November 29th, 2022.

We had the Epicure fundraiser ending and 22 boxes were sold.

In total we made 281\$ which has already been deposited in our account.

The Adopt-A-Tree campaign has started. We are currently in the process of working with Mr. Gray to get new tags that are more durable for our harsh weather.

A quote has been sent for tags and an engraving machine.

Teacher appreciation week is February 6-10, Costa will be creating in December a flyer to request donations from the parent community.

Marnie was able to get our school "a partnership" with the SPC card.

This card gives students discounts to various stores for only 10\$ membership/year.

Students must be 13 and over.

School gets 3\$ for every card purchased.

Next meeting of the LJA Home & School is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10th, 2023.

5.5 Student Council Report

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT | GOVERNING BOARD

Firstly, both I and James, President and VP of the student body, would like to thank you all for this opportunity. Additionally, we would also like to apologize that no Student Council representative could be present for the previous governing board meeting due to the Remembrance Day Ottawa Trip.

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP WITH MR. JOHNSON

On November 29, 2022, the Student Council Committee spent the entire day taking part in a leadership workshop led by Mr. Johnson in order to work on team-building and leadership skills.

- We participated in leadership activities.
- Discussed time management.
- Creation of the student council's constitution.
- Planned for upcoming events during the year.

LGBTQ+ AWARENESS PROJECT

The Student Council Committee has been working on an LGBTQ+ awareness project for the LGBTQ+ student community since the beginning of the year. A display case will be set up in front of Block C in the upcoming weeks. This display case will include LGBTQ + flag, positive messages and educational materials.

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

The Student Council will be holding ugly sweater day on December 21st and a pajama day on December 23rd, 2022, to honour the winter season. We will also be distributing candy canes to classes on December 23rd, 2nd period.

6. New Business

6.1 School Budget 2021-2022 End of Year Report

Mr. Ruggi presented the 2021-2022 End of Year Budget Summary to the members.

LJA-GB131222-07: Michael Rice motions to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Seconded by Will Evans. Motion carries unanimously.

6.2 Anti-Bullying, Anti-Violence (ABAV) Plan 2023-2024

Mrs. Cuccarolo presented some of the results of the Our School Survey completed in November 2022. She explained that the ABAV Committee met to analyze the results and to determine the priorities of the 2022-2023 ABAV Plan.

LJA-GB131222-08: Will Evans motions to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Seconded by Michael Rice. Motion carries unanimously.

LJA-GB131222-09: Will Evans motions to approve the Anti-Bullying, Anti-Violence Plan for 2022-2023 as presented. Seconded by Nicole Anastasopoulos. Motion carries unanimously.

6.3 Field Trips & ECAs

There were no field trips or ECAs to approve.

6.4 Fundraisers

There were no fundraisers to approve.

6.5 Rentals

There were no rentals to approve.

7.0 Confirmation of date & time of next meeting.

The next meeting of the LJA Governing Board will be on January 17, 2023 at 7 PM in the Library.

8.0 Adjournment

Michael Rice motions to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 PM. Seconded by Will Evans. The motions carries unanimously.

Jenny Georgeopoulos
Chairperson LJA Governing Board

Eric Ruggi
Principal, Laval Junior Academy