

TYPICAL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ATHLETICS

- Soccer
- Futsal
- Basketball
- March Madness Tournament
- Ball Hockey
- Ice Hockey
- Track & Field
- Cheerleading
- Volleyball
- Open Gym
- Tennis
- Weight training
- Boot Camp
- FitSpirit for Girls
- Arundel Winter Sports trip
- Ski trip
- Discover Diving
- Yoga

ARTS

- Art Club
- Comic Book Club
- Anime Club
- School Play : High School Musical Jr.
- Shakespeare Performance
- Field trip to Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
- Music Club
- Mural Walk field trip
- 80s TV Show Club
- Singing & Vocal Performance Club
- Dance Club
- Hip-Hop

SOCIAL & CULTURAL

- Sec. 1 Welcome Appreciation Evening
- Student Council
- Brigades Culinaires
- Social Board Games
- Games Room
- Fun Zone (Diversified Paths)
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Winter Carnival
- Arundel Leadership trip
- Green Club
- New Jersey Sports trip
- Skating at Centropolis
- Chess Club

ANTI-BULLYING INITIATIVES

- Mindfulness
- ASISTA therapy dogs
- Breakfast and Lunch program
- Heathy Minds / Healthy Bodies
- Reaching Out Club
- Chilling Lounge
- Community police officer activities
- SWLSB Mentoring program

LAVAL JUNIOR ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD 2020-21

PARENT MEMBERS

Jimmy Abraham	<i>Chair</i>
Pino Alberga	<i>Vice-Chair and Treasurer</i>
Evan Goudis	<i>Parents' Committee Delegate</i>
Effie Kontakos	<i>Secretary, Parents' Committee Delegate (Alternate)</i>

Theresa Andrusko
Alexandra Antonopoulos
Polizoi Christodoulakis
Laura Wittebol

STAFF MEMBERS

Dominic DiStefano	<i>Professional</i>
Betty Aliftiras	<i>Support</i>
Valerio Gazzola	<i>Teacher</i>
Kellie George-Bernard	<i>Teacher</i>
Maria Katiforis	<i>Teacher</i>
Mary Anne Lapenna	<i>Teacher</i>
Maria Tsakris	<i>Teacher</i>
Nathalie Potier	<i>Teacher</i>

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

Helen Morrison *At-Large*

ADMINISTRATION

Eric Ruggi	<i>Principal (Interim)</i>
Charles Chagnon	<i>Vice-Principal, Sec. 1</i>
Sunday Skoufaras	<i>Vice-Principal, Sec. 2 (Interim)</i>

For more information on our school,
we invite you to visit our web page:
<https://lavaljunior.com/en/>



LAVAL JUNIOR ACADEMY

2323, BOUL. DANIEL-JOHNSON
LAVAL, QUÉBEC H7T 1H8
TEL: 450-680-3044

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNING BOARD 2020-21

Next Annual General Assembly
Monday, Sept. 20, 2021
7:00pm
(More information to follow in August)



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD

INTRODUCING LAVAL JUNIOR ACADEMY 2020-21

[Laval Junior Academy](#) (LJA) is a public junior high school founded on the values of respect, perseverance, and integrity, proudly serving its community within the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board. Our students, staff, and parents work together closely to promote students' success and an active participation in their own learning experience.

A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER—The beginning of the school year in September 2020 saw the return of LJA students to school for in-person teaching but with new, COVID-adapted organization, scheduling, and detailed safety protocols in place. At times, circumstances such as new government directives, positive COVID cases, or strikes required students and staff to revert temporarily to remote delivery, showing their remarkable ability to adapt quickly to changing circumstances. The LJA Governing Board wishes to express its sincere appreciation to all involved, in their continued efforts this year to provide a high-quality education and a positive learning environment for our students.

PROGRAMS—This year LJA welcomed 919 students, offering the government's [general path of education](#) for Cycle 1 Secondary and [specialized settings](#) for students not in neurotypical pathways. Building on the general program, LJA offers [concentrations](#) in visual arts, science, and sports, as well as several [Sport-Études](#) opportunities, the [Blue & Gold Hockey program](#), and a specialized program in [Music and Media](#). LJA's dedicated school staff [strives to recognize student success](#) in ways that build self-esteem and school pride. Staff work diligently to support the education of the whole child which includes extracurricular as well as academic activities. Teaching staff also provide remediation support and exam preparatory sessions during the end-of-year exam period. Students who require additional support have access to special education technicians, attendants, resource support teachers, and the [Guidance Department](#).

STUDENT LIFE—In normal times, students at LJA have many outlets to discover and express themselves beyond traditional academics. This year, however, many of the activities regretfully were not offered due to pandemic restrictions. Student-centered [extracurricular activities](#) normally include clubs, teams, outings, and trips centering around sports, arts, culture,

theatre, music, science, the environment, games, hobbies, culinary pursuits, and more. Our school also actively participates in fundraisers for charitable organizations such as Terry Fox and Moisson Laval, and has a very active Student Council. LJA works with the ASISTA Foundation and has an in-service [therapy dog, Wall-E](#), and an in-training therapy dog, Enzo, who both offer comfort to students with high anxiety and autism.

ABAV PLAN—Each year, schools must adopt and implement an [Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence \(ABAV\) Plan](#). At LJA, the ABAV Plan is developed by a team of staff members using information gathered in a detailed survey which assesses the state of mind and current situation of students within the school (OurSchool Survey). Students are educated about bullying and its impacts through various activities which help to foster a feeling of safety and well-being.

FACILITIES—LJA's classrooms are all equipped with a SMART board and computer. The school offers two Apple and PC labs. The Music lab boasts state-of-the-art Apple Creative Music Labs systems. Investments in 3D printers and Raspberry Pi computers continue to be made, as we delve into coding using 21st century tools and technologies. The spacious [school library](#) has over thirty computers as well, with a large variety of bilingual books and magazines. The school also offers a full-service cafeteria, state-of-the-art auditorium, games room, four gymnasiums, outdoor sports fields, and will soon be home to a kiln for ceramics! This year, the LJA parking lot underwent renovations to ensure safer pick-up and drop-off of students. Following government requirements, air and water quality were measured in the school and confirmed to be of good quality and safe. We are also pleased to announce that in conjunction with the MEES, the school will benefit from a \$700,000 investment for a major renovation project that will create four new rooms to support learning activities for our special education students. These adapted classrooms will see the creation of a living space to teach life skills, as well as a bathroom, a direct access to the school yard, a multi-purpose room for stimulation and calming activities, and two interconnected classrooms. The project will be completed by September 2021.

GOVERNING BOARD ACTIVITIES—Following the virtual AGA on Sept. 8, 2020, the [LJA Governing Board](#) held nine regular meetings this year, via Zoom videoconference. Activities of the governing board included the review and approval of school programs including a new Basketball Sport-Études, the ABAV Plan, the [Student](#)

[Code of Conduct](#). Two subcommittees were renewed, looking at sustainability at LJA, and examining the cell phone policy within the Student Code of Conduct. A handful of field trips and fundraisers were reviewed and approved this year. The governing board also adopted the school budget and approved fees charged to parents, school supply lists, and the allocation of funds from grants and measures, including a growing playground improvement fund.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION—This year marked the second year of our [Home and School Association](#), headed by Ms. Effie Kontakos. Despite limited opportunities due to COVID restrictions, our dedicated group of parents supported students and staff by providing treats such as Holiday Candy Cane treats, Staff Appreciation lunch, free TCBY frozen yogurt, and a Year-End Pizza Party for all! Fundraising activities included FlipGive, Be U Dress Down days, and the new Adopt-a-Tree Campaign, inspired by LJA's 162 newly planted trees. Our sincerest thanks to our hard-working volunteers!

TYPICAL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES Available to LJA Students

ACADEMICS & COMMUNITY

- *Tutorials and workshops*
- *Aeronautics*
- *Coding*
- *Math Club*
- *History movies*
- *Apple Store programming workshops*
- *Institut Armand Frappier visit*
- *CIEAU Water Filtration Plant visit*
- *Honour Roll and Student*
- *Awards Night*
- *LJA Student Recognition Coins*
- *Terry Fox Run*
- *Student Council*
- *Community Holiday Breakfast*
- *Green Club*
- *Blue Club*
- *Community Service / Volunteering*
- *Food Drive for AGAPE*

SCHOOL SPIRIT 2020-21

