



**Laval Junior Academy  
Governing Board Minutes  
Thursday, October 26, 2017**

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**Present:** Suzanne Brazau, Daniel Bourque, Patrick Chabot, Nadia Colozza, Domenic Di Stefano, Valario Gazzola, Jonathan Gray, Douglas Howarth, Maria Katiforis, Effie Kontakos, Lia Maggiorino, Sunday Skoufaras Kerry Swanson, Jacques Tardif, Laura Wittebol  
Irene Vlachakis  
Principal: Josée Côté Vice Principals: Helen Kalipolidis, Tina Miscio

**Guests:** Pina Del Sonno, Cassandra Di Medio

**Regrets:** Jimmy Mourelatos

**0 Welcome / Quorum:**

The meeting was called to order by Laura Wittebol at 7:04 pm.

**1.0 Adoption of Agenda:**

The following were added:

New business 6.8 Safety & Security a) Lockdown Measures b) Defibrillators  
6.9 Bus Transportation 6.2.3 Casino Fundraiser

*GB-261017-01: Sunday Skoufaras motioned to approve agenda, Suzanne Brazau seconded, unanimous Motion carried*

**2.0 Approval of Minutes of:**

**2.1 May 16, 2017:** No amendments.

*GB-261017-02: Domenic Di Stefano motioned to approve the Minutes, Kerry Swanson seconded, 9 voted for and 7 abstentions. Motion carried*

**2.2 Minutes from September 27, 2017:** Typos were corrected.

*GB-261017-03: Daniel Bourque motioned to approve the Minutes, Kerry Swanson seconded, 14 voted for and 2 abstentions. Motion carried*

**2.3 Notes from September 21, 2017 General Assembly of Parents:**

*GB-261017-04: Daniel Bourque motioned to approve the Notes, Effie Kontakos seconded, 7 voted for and 9 abstentions. Motion carried*

**3.0 Question Period for the Public:** None. No parents present.

**4.0 Business Arising from Minutes**



#### 4.1 E-votes since last GB meeting:

##### 4.1.1 Fieldtrips:

Art Excellence "Mural Art Walking Tour" and Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, approved.

Field Trip:	<b>Art Excellence "Mural Art Walking Tour"</b>				
Location:	Station Gallery	Students:	45	Time:	8:45am-2:30pm
Date:	October 18, 2017	Teachers:	2	Transport Fee:	Bus / metro
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2	Supervisors:	2 tour guides	Entrance Fee:	\$0
Organizer:	K. White, K. Vrugink	Ratio:	1:14	Total:	\$24.50

Objective: Art walk will allow students a higher comprehension of mural arts and relationship between viewer and creator. We hope to use it as a springboard for our own mural project starting in October.

Field Trip:	<b>Once Upon A Time...The Western</b>				
Location:	Mtl Museum of Fine Arts	Students:	135	Time:	8:45am-2:30pm
Date:	October 24, 2017	Teachers:	2	Transport Fee:	Bus
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2	Supervisors:	7	Entrance Fee:	\$0
Organizer:	C. Aznar	Ratio:	1:15	Total:	\$25.00

Objective: To understand the meaning behind an image. How it relates to us through history.

*GB-111017-EV01: E-vote on October 11 to approve the fieldtrips Art Excellence "Mural Art Walking Tour" and Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Motioned by Valario Gazzola, seconded by Jacques Tardif, unanimous. Motion carried*

##### 4.1.2 Fieldtrips:

Domaine Vert, Oct. 19, and Arbraska, Oct. 27 – approved

Field Trip:	<b>Multisport Fatbike Field Trip</b>				
Location:	Domain Vert, Park Oka	Students:	28	Time:	10:00am-2:45pm
Date:	October 19, 2017	Teachers:	2	Transport Fee:	Bus
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2	Supervisors:	0	Entrance Fee:	\$0
Organizer:	J. Ricci	Ratio:	1:15	Total:	\$30.00

Objective: To expose multisport students to different sports which are not always classic sports.

Field Trip:	<b>Arbraska</b>				
Location:	Rawdon	Students:	70 max	Time:	8:30am-2:30pm
Date:	October 27, 2017	Teachers:	5	Transport Fee:	Bus
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2	Supervisors:	0	Entrance Fee:	\$0
Organizer:	J. Gray	Ratio:	1:14	Total:	40.00

Objective: To engage in outdoor physical activities. Part of the Living World Curriculum.

*GB-131017-EV02: E-vote on October 13 to approve the fieldtrips Domaine Vert and Arbraska. Motioned by Lia Maggiorino, seconded by Suzanne Brazau, unanimous. Motion carried*

#### 4.2 Letter to School Board regarding late buses:

The letter was sent on October 19, 2017. Helen Kalipolidis can confirm the arrival of buses to the school has improved. The school is no longer delaying attendance (for approximately ten days).



### **4.3 Review and Adoption of Internal Rules of Procedures:**

Internal Rules of Procedures were discussed. Governing Board meetings end at 9:30 pm, however, if the time needs to be extended, a motion/vote is required. Members discussed amending the time of meetings to end at 9:00pm from the existing 9:30pm. It was approved by consensus and will be written into the Internal Rules of Procedure. Approval of Internal Rules tabled for next meeting.

#### **4.3.1 Alternate Governing Board parent representatives:**

At the General Assembly, eight (8) alternate parent representatives were elected. GB may not require all. It was suggested keeping it at two representatives, who would be asked to attend all meetings, for continuity purposes. The selection process would be made by contacting the eight alternates and who, from the eight, willing to meet these requirements. For teacher representatives, the consensus, after some discussion, was to keep as is.

**4.4 Community Representative Nomination:** Position is still open.

### **4.5 Governing Board Info on LJA Website:**

Website has been updated. This year's GB members are listed, Bill 105 and the Education Act are posted. GB meetings date will be included. A suggestion was made to keep GB Minutes available on website as long as 6 years.

### **4.6 Back-Up Plan For Student Trip To New York:**

The general practice is that an adult follows the travelling group to ensure all students are accepted at the border. Should a student be refused, they travel back with this adult. Parents are called. The insurance and touring provider do not issue refunds should a student fail to be approved passage at the border. Mr. Paul Lamoureux's suggestion, for these trips, was to submit a list of students, teachers, etc., in advance to the border, notifying them of the school field trip / travel. Also, it's important to emphasize a passport is required. A birth certificate alone is not adequate for entry to the States.

### **4.7 Response to Dress Code Petition:**

The letter, response to the dress code petition, that was drafted to all GB members via e-mail was discussed. The petition is for students to be allowed to wear a choice of white polos or t-shirts for the tops and be permitted to wear tights as well. The letter will be amended and resent to the members for review and approval. The Chairperson will research the regulations and procedures that exist regarding changing the dress code. Tabled for next meeting.

### **4.8 Dress Code Discussion:**

The dress code is being enforced more vigilantly this year. Concerns and opinions were discussed regarding the existing dress code policy. No decision was taken. Every year the school agenda needs to be finalized by March. Therefore, the dress code policy needs to be finalized by March, in order that the student code written in the agenda is clear and accurate. The Chairperson will research the rules, regulations, and procedures that exist regarding changing the dress code. A dress code committee was formed to further review this matter which consist of Irene Vlachakis, Lia Maggiorino, Nadia Colozza, and Kerri Swanson. Further discussion tabled for next meeting.



*GB-261017-05: Sunday Skoufaras motioned for the creation of a dress code subcommittee, Suzanne Brazau seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.*

## **5.0 Reports**

### **5.1 Principal:**

1. Proposing / planning that a portion of rental monies be allocated for the following:
  - Renovation of the workout room. It needs attention. Would like to add an extra station of workout in the weight room. Will help refurbish it and allow students access at lunch.
  - Music room maintenance.
  - Contribution to the fund to purchase a kiln for the school.
  - Paint lines in the parking lot for fire drills and lockdowns.
2. Open house will be on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. Redoing the brochure and pochettes have been made with a memo inside that highlights each subject.
3. Potholes in parking lot filled with gravel by hired help from our School Board.
4. Attended the International Baccalaureate School. One meeting between two schools, Sec. 1-5.
5. More publicity for our school with the Open House, in Laval Families Magazine, and SWLSB Facebook.

### **5.2 Chairperson:**

- Met with Josée Côté to plan for this year's Governing Board's discussions.
- No annual report for last year's GB was generated, so that needs to be rectified.
- Balance of GB is \$1,124.75.
- Everyone is welcome to attend The Laurier Stars event at LJA on November 16, 2017 at 7pm. It's organized by the SWL Foundation and tickets are \$15.
- Jennifer Maccarone will be attending LJA's GB meeting on February 22, 2018.

### **5.3 Parents' Committee:**

- New Executive Committee and Representatives were elected on October 5, 2017.
- Presentation by Sophie Thibault for Qualification. It's a service for businesses and provides continuous education in the workforce. It generates revenues for the SWLSB - \$650,000 last year of which \$100,000 was profit.
- SWLSB is lobbying for a lower regional school tax as exists in Montreal.
- Students with dyslexia are not recognized as special needs, and so, not coded by the government – no additional resources allocated.
- Commitment to Success Plan, which replaces our Strategic plan ending in 2017, will be finalized by April 2018.
- It was reported to SB that the STL Buses are consistently late, and so, students are consistently late for school. Bus transportation is an essential service.
- SWLSB is in favour of home schooling with a measure of control for parents reporting of home schooled students.
- The incident at LSA on October 5, which also affected LJA, was discussed. A student from LSA posted for other students not to go to school because there would be stabbings. It came to attention of the SWLSB, the police were notified and began their investigation.
- There is a class action suit against various school boards on consumables and everything outside of school supplies. Schools can potentially not be allowed to ask for money for field trips or music programs. Awaiting the results of the class action suit.



- Calendar of meetings for the Parents' Committee: November 2, December 7, February 1, March 1, April 5, and June 3, all at 7:15pm.

#### 5.4 PPO:

No report since first PPO meeting will be held on November 6.

### 6.0 New Business:

#### 6.1 Field Trips and ECA Approvals:

Field Trip:	<b>Ottawa Field Trip</b>				
Location:	Ottawa	Students:	50	Time:	7:00am-9:00pm
Date:	November 23, 2017	Teachers:	2	Transportation:	Motorcoach Bus
Grades:	Sec 1	Supervisors:	5 + 3 volun	Entrance Fee:	\$0
Organizer:	N. Kourebanas, M. Lypoudis	Ratio:	1:10	Total:	\$60.00

Objective: Students will visit the nation's capital to learn about the government system. Students will visit the Canadian Museum of History

Field Trip:	<b>Sports Excellence Ski Trip</b>				
Location:	La Reserve	Students:	200 max	Time:	8:30am-5:00pm
Date:	January 26, 2018	Teachers:	8	Transportation:	Bus
Grades:	Sec 1 & 2	Supervisors:		Entrance Fee:	\$0
Organizer:	J. Ven Der Hoeven, R. Leblanc	Ratio:	1:25	Total:	\$

Objective: To promote outdoor sports.

Field Trip:	<b>Boys Rugby Tournament</b>				
Location:	Concordia University	Students:	12	Time:	7:00am-6:00pm
Date:	May 11, 2018	Teachers:	1	Transport Fee:	
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2 boys	Supervisors:	1	Entrance Fee & meal:	included
Organizer:	J. Barrieau	Ratio:	1:6	Total:	\$30.00

Objective: To promote sports.

Field Trip:	<b>DP Discovering Montreal</b>				
Location:	Montreal	Students:	23	Time:	8:30am-2:57pm
Date:	December 8, 2017	Teachers:	4	Transport Fee:	STL bus & metro
Grades:	DP 60, 61, 62	Supervisors:	3 attendants	Lunch:	included
Organizer:	P. Paquette, A. Kallianiotis, K. Stanbra, H. Kouros	Ratio:	1:3	Total:	\$25.00

Objective: Students will be studying Montreal landmarks in class and will be acting as tour guides for their classmates. This is a cross curricular activity.

*GB-261017-06: Kerry Swanson motioned for approval of the four fieldtrips – Ottawa, Ski, Rugby and Discovering Montreal -, Lia Maggiorino seconded, unanimous. Motion carried.*



**6.1.1 Red Cross First Aid / Babysitting Course:**

The Red Cross would like to offer their first aid and babysitting course to LJA students. Students taking the course a handbook.

Field Trip:	<b>Red Cross First Aid / Babysitting Course</b>				
Location:	LJA	Students:	open	Time:	8:00am-4:00pm approx
Date:	PED, unspecified	Teachers:	1	Transportation:	N/A
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2	Supervisors:		Handbook:	included
Organizer:	D. Di Stefano	Ratio:	1:25	Total:	\$65.00

*GB-261017-07: Effie Kontakos motioned to approve the Red Cross First Aid/ Babysitting Course at LJA for LJA students on a PED day for \$65, given that the classroom assigned receives approval from the teacher (whose classroom it is), Suzanne Brazau seconded. 11 for, 4 opposed, and 1 abstention.*

*Motion carried.*

**6.1.2 Boston Student Trip:**

Field Trip:	<b>Boston Trip</b>				
Location:	Boston	Students:	100	Departure:	6:45am May 9, 2018
Date:	May 9,10, &11, 2018	Teachers:	10	Arrival:	8:30pm May 11, 2018
Grades:	Sec 1 & Sec 2	Ratio:	1:10	Transportation:	Motorcoach Bus
Organizer:	L. Maggiorino	Meals:	Some included	Total:	\$495.00

*GB-261017-08: Kerry Swanson motioned to approve the Boston trip, Irene Vlachakis seconded, unanimous.*

*Motion carried*

**6.2 Fundraising Approvals:**

**6.2.1 Chocolate Fundraiser:**

A fundraiser was proposed with the chocolate company Humeur for the holiday season. A letter would go home. Need to determine percentage to go to school and percentage to go to the student in account. Monies raised could pay for yearbooks, jerseys, etc. Tabled for next meeting. Further information will be provided via email that may require an e-vote.

**6.2.2 Boston Trip Fundraiser:**

Proposing a fundraiser with LaMontagne chocolate to cut costs for the students going on the Boston trip. Name of school will be printed on the box. Students will pay \$20 for a box of chocolates and will sell them for \$40. Will provide more information – possible e-vote.

**6.2.3 Casino Fundraiser:**

Discussions held to organize a Casino Night fundraiser on Friday, March 23, 2018 with LSA. The costs and profits would be split equally between LJA and LSA. The agreement is pending approval by GB at LSA. If GB at LSA does not give approval, LJA will continue with the fundraiser nevertheless. A down payment is required, as well a reply ASAP, in order to confirm the date of the fundraiser. The location of the Casino Night is to be announced at a later date.



*GB-261017-09: Suzanne Brazau motioned to approve the Casino Night on March 23, 2018, regardless of whether LSA gets approval or not from their GB, Sunday Skoufaras seconded, 15 for, 1 abstention.  
Motion carried*

**Motion to extend the meeting:**

At 9:00pm. A motion was needed to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes.

*GB-261017-010: Sunday Skoufaras motioned to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes, Kerry Swanson seconded, unanimous.  
Motion carried*

**6.2.4 Miscellaneous Fundraisers:**

Nadia Varano would like to have a book sale on Parent Teacher Night on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Student Council would like to have bake sales on December 3, 14 and 16. Green Club Student Council would like to have a Candy Cane-o-gram and Valentine Card delivery. Also, on Parent Teacher Night, Green Club wants to sell First Aid kits (\$12-\$15).

*GB-261017-011: Kerry Swanson motioned to approve the Book Sale, the bake sales, Candy Cane-o-gram, Valentine Card delivery and sale of First Aid kits, Daniel Bourque seconded, unanimous.  
Motion carried*

On December 11, a presenter will be holding 60-minute workshops for Cycle 1 students during French class. A school production/ French activity. The cost is \$2, 154.52. Students will be asked to pay \$5.

*GB-261017-012: Lia Maggiorino motioned to approve the in-school French activity, Nadia Colozza seconded, unanimous.  
Motion carried*

**6.2.5 Popcorn Fundraiser:**

Helen Kouros provided an update, in writing via a proxy, for the popcorn fundraiser on Days 4 and 7, approved last month. Profits will go to the following: LJA food cards, Asista, Alessia Magnolia's, DP student activity needs and CASP student activity needs.

**6.3 Rentals: None**

**6.4 Standards and Procedures for Evaluation of Learning (Cycle 1 – Secondary):**

Tabled for next meeting.

**6.5 Approval of Allocations for Grants and Measures**

**6.5.1 15016, 15025, 15026:**

Tabled for next meeting.

**Motion to extend the meeting:**

At 9:15 pm. a motion was needed to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes.

*GB-261017-013: Kerry Swanson motioned to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes, Suzanne Brazau seconded, unanimous.  
Motion carried*



## **6.6 Recent Incident – Social Media/Threat/Response/Communication**

### **6.6.1 Invited Guest Mr. Jimmy Mourelatos:**

Mr. Jimmy Mourelatos was unable to attend.

## **6.7 Language in the School Hallways**

Concern was expressed regarding the language used by students in the hallways. Tina Miscio responded, stating that issues are dealt with instantly. Helen Kalipolidis added that students are doing better this year than last year.

## **6.8 Safety & Security**

a) **Lockdown Measures:** Tabled for next meeting.

b) **Defibrillators:** Tabled for next meeting.

**6.9 Bus Transportation:** Tabled for next meeting.

**7.0 Varia:** None

## **8.0 Question Period for the Public:**

Pina Del Sonno, accompanied by her daughter, Cassandra Di Medio, wanted an update on the request/petition submitted last month to make changes to the dress code. Pina Del Sonno expressed frustration that no decision had yet been made to change the existing dress code policy. It was explained that Governing Board was deliberating the issue and that decisions of this nature must be made with careful consideration and adequate discourse. The Governing Board thanked Pina Del Sonno for her comments and informed her that the committee will continue to discuss the dress code policy and potential response.

## **9.0 Confirmation of Date/Time of next Governing Board Meeting:**

### **9.1 Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 7pm:**

Confirmed.

### **9.2 January Meeting:**

The January 25, 2018 meeting was changed to January 18, 2018 because of a conflict with the SWL Foundation's Gala that same night.

**10.0 Adjournment:** Meeting Adjourned at 9:32 pm

*GB270917-014 Daniel Bourque motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jonathan Gray seconded, unanimous. Motion passed*

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Laura Wittebol  
Chairperson

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Effie Kontakos  
Secretary