



**Laval Junior Academy  
Governing Board Minutes  
Monday, January 28, 2019**

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- Present:** Pino Alberga, Betty Aliftiras, Mary Caruso, Patrick Chabot, Joe Della Sala, Dominic Di Stefano, Jonathan Gray, Maria Katiforis, Effie Kontakos, Marlyn Lypoudis, Shannon Rudolph, Maria Tsakris, Laura Wittebol, Alternate: Patrizia D'Ignazio (voting)  
Principal: Alan Simoneau Vice-Principals: Helen Kalipolidis, Sunday Skoufaras
- Regrets:** Tony Beliotis, Nadia Colozza, Valerio Gazzola
- Guests:** Theresa Andrusko, James Di Sano (Commissioner), Louie Mandolese, Jonathan Mandolese and Billy Hosiaspian (Piccola Gioia)

**0. Verification of Quorum:** The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

**1.0 Call to Order / Role of Alternates / Introduction of Guests:** New Governing Board member Marlyn Lypoudis is replacing Sunday Skoufaras, who is now Interim Vice-Principal. Patrizia D'Ignazio will be replacing. In attendance is James Di Sano, Commissioner for Ward 5. Louie will make a presentation on Piccola Gioia Catering.

**2.0 Adoption of Agenda:** No additions.

*GB280119-01: Pino Alberga motioned to approve the agenda, Mary Caruso seconded, unanimous.*

*Motion carried*

**3.0 Approval of Minutes of November 20, 2018:** Typo for Betty Aliftiras' name to be corrected.

*GB280119-02: Dominic Di Stefano motioned to approve the Minutes of November 20<sup>th</sup>, Patrick Chabot seconded, 11 in favour and 2 abstentions.*

*Motion carried*

**4.0 Presentation and Q&A -Traiteur Piccola Gioia (cafeteria proposal):** A handout was distributed to members. Piccola Gioia is a family run business with over 15 years experience in the catering business. Meals are made fresh in the kitchen. Provide tailor made menus catering to the school/students (evaluate food preferences and tendencies). Use real plates – Corelle and plastic cutlery since there is a loss of cutlery when it is not returned which leads to more expenses/costs. Have a loyalty card program. Students are able to pay by cash, interact, or pre-paid cards.

In addition: Offer two \$500 scholarships, kitchen is made available after hours for PPO and/or special events, willing to participate in fundraising events, and staff can order half pan of prepared meals to bring home.

*GB280119-03: Maria Katiforis motioned to approve that Mr. Simoneau contact the Director of Material Resources to inquire about the terms of the contract and the process involved for changing contracts, Jonathan Gray seconded, 12 in favour, 1 against.*

*Motion carried*

**5.0 Question Period:** Question: What is the procedure for registrations? The process was explained. Registrations need to be completed. A student in Sec 2 this year at LJA for registration next year will be registered for LSA Sec 3 next year unless otherwise indicated on the form. Registrations are separate from course selections.



## 6.0 Business Arising

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

#### 6.1.1 Cancellation of December 11, 2018 GB meeting: E-vote on December 2, 2018.

*GB021218-EV01: Laura Wittebol motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to cancel its scheduled December 11, 2018 meeting as there are no agenda items necessitating a meeting at this time, Nadia Colozza seconded, 15 votes in favour, 1 abstention by non-vote. Motion carried*

**6.1.2 Apple Store Field Trips December 2018:** E-vote on December 10, 2018. Students will walk to the Apple Store in Carrefour Laval during designated Music periods in December. No cost for this.

*GB101218-EV02: Pino Alberga motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to approve the proposed Apple Store Field Trip to take place during designated Music periods in December 2018 meeting, Maria Katiforis seconded, 13 votes in favour, 3 abstentions by non-vote. Motion carried*

**6.1.3 Change in GB Meeting Date to January 28, 2019:** E-vote on January 10, 2019. The LJA Governing Board is asked to consider approving changing the date of the upcoming meeting from January 29 to January 28, 2019. The reason for the request to change is that LSA will have its Open House on January 29<sup>th</sup> and some of our members will be involved in and attending that event.

*GB100119-EV04: Betty Alifiras motioned that the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board shall cancel its January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting date and reschedule it to January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Pino Alberga seconded, 10 votes in favour, 6 abstentions by non-vote. Motion carried*

**6.1.4 Consultation on 2019-2020 Deed of Establishment for Laval Junior Academy:** E-vote on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The LJA Governing Board was consulted regarding the Deeds of Establishment and the deadline for responses is January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

*GB090119-EV03: Joe Della Sala motioned that the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board has no comments or recommendations regarding the proposed Deed of Establishment for 2019-2020 for LJA, Domenic Di Stefano seconded, 12 votes in favour, 4 abstentions by non-vote. Motion carried*

**6.2 Response letters – Tobacco, Alcohol & Drug Policy, Deed of Establishment, Consultation of School Calendars:** All responses were submitted to the school board.

**6.3 Review of Internal Rules of Procedure:** No changes.

## 7.0 Reports

### 7.1 Principal:

- 84% of school fees collected.
- End of term is February 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Parent Teacher Night is on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Appointments are scheduled via reservation system.
- Almost every student has been given a brief introduction into Mindfulness by a certified Mindfulness practitioner, which will be funded by the grant the school received.



- Educational Project – 4 areas targeted:
  1. Math results.
  2. ABAV.
  3. Reduce the gap between boys' and girls' achievements.
  4. Monitoring and increasing the success rate for students on IEPs.
- A math exam prep session was scheduled on Saturday, organized by 9 teachers, as a review for students to help them prepare for the math exam and identify strengths and weakness.
- Alvin Powell gave a presentation on antibullying that was organized by the Student Council.
- New procedure introduced regarding detentions. The parents will be notified when their child has an afterschool detention.
- Multiple art grants program.
  1. Stained glass project with Ms Aznar.
  2. Mural with First Nations theme. Arts students will work with artists from EMPLM.
  3. Community hall beautification with Kevin Ledo (artist of the Leonard Cohen mural). The artist will also be presenting to arts concentration students.
- Budget Update – Have a recovery plan in place that will take 2 ½ years. Are looking at increasing rentals.
- LJA will start the new Sexuality Education Curriculum in Term 3, as mandated by the Ministry for this school year. A letter will be sent to parents. Specific topics will be covered over a certain period and Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 will be divided.
- Scholastic Book Fair that took place from November 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> raised \$3 308 in sales. LJA received 60% of that (\$1985) amount in Scholastic product and there is still \$1641 available to purchase Scholastic items.

## 7.2 Chairperson:

### 1) Attended Parent Committee Meeting Dec. 6, 2018

- a. Consultations – Deeds/3-year/school calendars were presented.
  - b. Chair Handbook project was launched. This will be a handbook with practical suggestions for new Chairs, a sharing of best practices from among Parent Committee members.
  - c. Mme Côté will visit GBs regarding SWLSB Foundation.
  - d. New commissioners appointed to fill vacancies: Bob Pellerin and James Di Sano.
  - e. SWLSB Commitment to Success plan to be launched Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>
    - i. <https://www.swlauriersb.qc.ca/?page=about/strategicplan>
  - f. Re-Registration to be done on-line this year – Mozaik Portal
  - g. Quebec high school history books. EMSB had three experts review the current history textbook for high schools and found that they fail to adequately tell the story of the province's minorities and Indigenous population and should be pulled from classrooms.  
<http://cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/quebec-history-high-school-emsb-1.4926499>
- School Board was asked if our Board has any comment on this, the response was that SWLSB's pedagogical consultants have provided supplementary material to Social Studies teachers to be able to fill any perceived gaps in the history book.

### 2) School Fees Survey – a government survey was forwarded to all GB members to fill in:

<http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/en/parents-and-guardians/references/consultation-on-school-fees/?fbclid=IwAR0WpfEIVkVDjLKaCAXDc4MfSwv99Df-i4gcj2ioxCkqjY2Cx0si0iWJKY>. The survey included questions such as in what situations parents feel it is appropriate to charge fees for school supplies and activities. This feedback will be used by the Ministry to propose a new bill on school fees.



**3) Town Hall event at Laval Senior Academy** – I attended this event which was held on Monday, Jan. 21st, 2019. The purpose of the event was to allow communication between the School Board Administration, Council of Commissioners, parents, and teachers, regarding feelings and concerns about Laval Junior and Laval Senior Academy. Administration of both schools were in attendance as well. The format included an initial information presentation by school board Director General Ms. Gaëlle Absolonne and Chair of the Council of Commissioners, Mr. Paolo Galati. Information was shared about the school board territory, the organization of elementary and high schools, programs available, graduation rates, and enrollment numbers. Following this presentation, a Question and Answer period was held. Members of the audience were invited to stand and ask questions for information. Some people stated concerns as well. Some had negative comments and some had positive comments. Topics mentioned ranged broadly from bus transportation issues in Laval, bus transportation to Rosemere High School from Laval, teacher/student interaction at Laval Senior, and zoning for SWLSB high schools. Following this 45-minute period, audience members were invited to form groups of 4-6 to write down their concerns and recommendations for the school board, regarding the two schools. At the end, each table was asked to give their top concern and top priority for change in the next five years. Some specific suggestions included: re-zoning high schools to give more choices to students, better promotion of the positive and innovative things our schools, teachers, and students are doing, and supporting teachers with professional development to (1) provide students with more training in organizational and study skills to prepare for CEGEP, university, and the workplace and (2) managing with students in this era of electronic devices. Overall it was a good event but given the seriousness of some parents' concerns, I think more consultation should take place and I hope there will be more chances for exchange and feedback.

### **7.3 Treasurer:**

- Balance is \$730.

### **7.4 SWLSB Parents' Committee:**

- There was a special meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup> for the election of the Commissioner of Ward 5. The Parents' Committee was consulted and the Council of Commissioners elected Bob Pellerin.
- The Parents' Committee has a Facebook page. Parents will have access to information, schools may send the PC items they want to post about events and workshops at their school.
- The 2019-2020 Calendar was reviewed.
- Responses for the Deeds of Establishment and Three-Year Plan are due by January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- The Commitment to Success Plan was launched on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The CTSP document is available on the SWLSB website. A CTSP video has also been posted on the website.
- The next Parents' Committee meeting is on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

### **7.5 PPO:**

- Frozen Cookie Dough Fundraiser has started and will end after Spring Break.
- Community Breakfast raised \$2500 after expenses.
- Dress Down Day – details will follow.

## **8.0 New Business**

**8.1 Field Trips and ECAs- Blue and Gold Review at LSA:** Scheduled for Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 8:45 am – 11:30 am. Sec 2 students will walk (weather permitting) to LSA to attend the Blue and Gold Review. Approximately 450 students, 12 teachers, 2 supervisors, minimum of 14 staff members. The objectives are to promote student engagement and familiarization of LSA. A letter will go home to parents.



GB280119-04: Shannon Rudolph motioned to approve the Blue and Gold Review Trip to LSA, Jonathan Gray seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

**8.2 Fundraisers - Mr. Pretzel fundraiser:** Students will be able to purchase a pretzel from Mr. Pretzel from Carrefour Laval and a drink, juice or milk for \$3. Pre-sale only. Date will not conflict with other fundraisers, will not coincide with TCBY, will not be on a Day 2 or 9, perhaps during Carnival Week. Funds raised will go internally for students in need, clothing, and meal cards. A portion of the profits will go towards installing water fountains at LJA.

GB280119-05: Effie Kontakos motioned to approve the proposed Mr. Pretzel fundraiser, Pino Alberga seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

**8.3 Rentals:** The rental contracts were presented: Viva, AA, Café Fit, Soccer, Chroma Music, AICP, Picai, Ecole, Syndicat, all pre-existing, for a total of \$6270.02.

GB280119-06: Patrizia D'Ignazio motioned to approve the rentals totaling \$6270.02, Jonathan Gray seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

**8.4 LJA Branded Clothing:** Samples of hoodies were presented to the members. Increasing colour option to four with LJA logo format standardized. Hoodies LJA branded, administration approved with objective to promote a sense of belonging. Presented at Teacher Council as well.

GB280119-07: Jonathan Gray motioned to approve the hoodies with four colour options, Effie Kontakos seconded, 17 in favour, 1 against. Motion carried

**Motion to extend the meeting:**

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

GB280119-08: Pino Alberga motioned to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes, Mary Caruso seconded, unanimous. Motion carried

**8.5 Approval of LJA 2018-2019 Summary of Measures and Grants:**

Name of Grant / Measure	Purpose	Amount
Individualized Help (15021)	Homework support for regular and at-risk students.	\$28,413
Wellness–Active Youth (15022)	Promotion of healthy lifestyle, physical activities, ECAs	\$20,039
Secondary Support (15026)	Support vulnerable high school students, prevent dropouts	\$49,205
Anti-Bullying (15031)	Promote ABAV plan and safe school initiatives	\$5,511
Read in School (15103)	Purchase books and reading materials	\$13,251
School Initiatives (15170)	Support school initiatives	\$19,166
Integration EHDAA (15312)	Support for students integrating in regular settings	\$8,021
Inspiring Schools (15230)	Educational field trips, culture, science, physical activities	\$27,645
School Outings (15186)	School outings linked to approved cultural artists / activities	\$8,886
		<b>\$ 180,137</b>

GB280119-09: Mary Caruso motioned for the Laval Junior Academy Governing Board to confirm that LJA has been allocated a total amount of \$180,137, as indicated in the table, as part of the dedicated and protected measures, Shannon Rudolph seconded, unanimous. Motion carried



**9.0 Varia:** None.

**10.0 Question Period:** Theresa Andrusko requested the Chairperson report on the Town Hall meeting and what took place. Mr. Simoneau thanked Ms Andrusko for attending the meeting. The Chairperson provided more details.

Highlights:

- The Town Hall meeting was initiated by parents requesting that SWLSB provide transport for students in Laval wishing to attend Rosemere High School and not Laval Senior Academy.
- SWLSB cannot provide transport for students wishing to attend a school out of zone.
- A presentation was given on Laval Senior Academy in the beginning of the meeting.
- People that attended were asked to list their primary concerns regarding Laval High Schools and to give suggestions and/or recommendations to SWLSB for what they wanted changed/improved.

**Motion to extend the meeting:**

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

*GB280119-10: Maria Katiforis motioned to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes, Jonathan Gray seconded, 9 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention. Motion carried*

**11.0 Confirmation of Date/Time of next GB meeting**

**11.1 Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7pm:**

**12.0 Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

*GB280119-11: Domenic Di Stefano motioned to adjourn the meeting, Patrizia D'Ignazio seconded, unanimous. Motion carried*

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Laura Wittebol  
Chairperson

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Effie Kontakos  
Secretary